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OCT. NO. 9

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MY OWN ROMANCE

MARVEL COMIC

WHEN LOVE COMES TOO SOON!

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WITH EACH NEW DAY MY HEART GREW MORE PETRIFIED WITH FEAR, AS MY SOUL CRIED OUT...

DID I LOVE A CRIMINAL?

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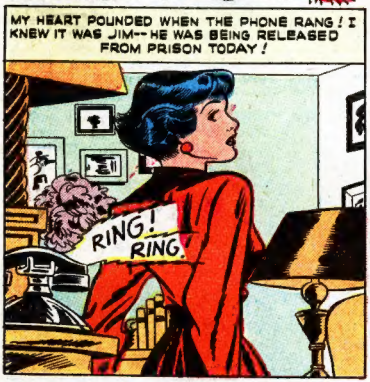


JIM, WE DON'T HAVE TO STAY HERE... WE CAN GO AWAY!
NO, THERESA, YOU'VE LIVED HERE ALL YOUR LIFE... I KNOW HOW MUCH A PART OF YOU THIS TOWN IS!

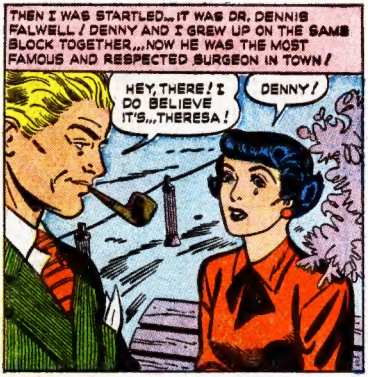
BUT, DARLING, FOR YOU, I WOULDN'T MIND...
YOU'RE GOING TO STAY HERE! BUT I'M LEAVING TONIGHT FOR CHICAGO...

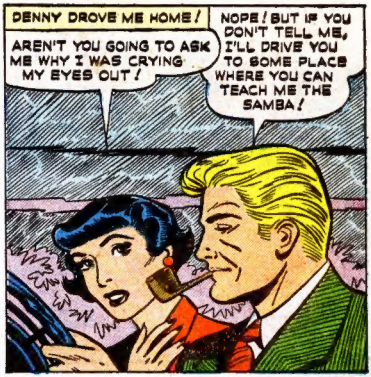
YOU CAN'T MEAN IT! I WON'T LET YOU GO!
LET ME FINISH, DEAR!

I MUST DO IT MY WAY! I'LL GO TO CHICAGO WHERE NOBODY KNOWS ME! IT'S A BIG CITY, AND I'LL GET A JOB, WORK HARD, AND WHEN I'VE PROVEN MYSELF I'LL COME HERE... TO YOU... AND WE CAN FACE THE WORLD TOGETHER!

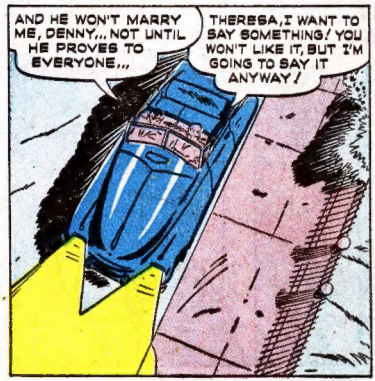
BUT WE CAN DO THAT NOW, JIM! I KNOW YOU WERE INNOCENT... THAT YOU NEVER TOOK THAT MONEY!
YOU KNOW... YES... BUT TO EVERYONE ELSE...

I DON'T KNOW HOW LONG I SAT THERE AND CRIED AFTER JIMMY LEFT!


THEN I WAS STARTLED... IT WAS DR. DENNIS FALWELL! DENNY AND I GREW UP ON THE SAME BLOCK TOGETHER,,, NOW HE WAS THE MOST FAMOUS AND RESPECTED SURGEON IN TOWN!
HEY, THERE! I DO BELIEVE IT'S,,,THERESA!
DENNY!

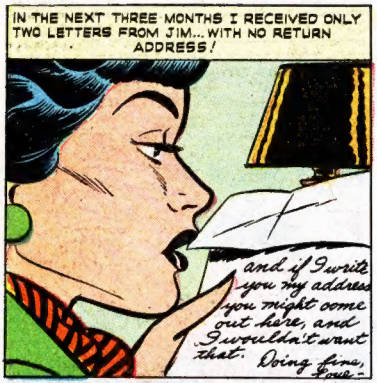

DENNY DROVE ME HOME!
AREN'T YOU GOING TO ASK ME WHY I WAS CRYING MY EYES OUT!
NOPE! BUT IF YOU DON'T TELL ME, I'LL DRIVE YOU TO SOME PLACE WHERE YOU CAN TEACH ME THE SAMBA!

JIM HAWKS LEFT FOR CHICAGO-- HE WAS RELEASED FROM PRISON TODAY!
OH,,,I DIDN'T KNOW!


AND HE WON'T MARRY ME, DENNY,,, NOT UNTIL HE PROVES TO EVERYONE,,,
THERESA, I WANT TO SAY SOMETHING! YOU WON'T LIKE IT, BUT I'M GOING TO SAY IT ANYWAY!

IT MUST BE FIVE YEARS NOW SINCE YOU FELL IN LOVE WITH JIM AND, IN ALL THAT TIME, YOU HAVEN'T BEEN HAPPY ONE DAY! DON'T YOU THINK YOU SHOULD FIND OTHER INTERESTS? DOES HE HAVE THE ONLY CLAIM ON YOU?
THEN YOU DON'T THINK HE'S INNOCENT?

I DIDN'T SAY THAT!
NO, BUT YOU THINK IT! YOU'RE JUST LIKE EVERYBODY ELSE! GOOD NIGHT, DENNY FALWELL, AND GOOD-BYE!


IN THE NEXT THREE MONTHS I RECEIVED ONLY TWO LETTERS FROM JIM... WITH NO RETURN ADDRESS!
and if I write you my address you might come out here, and I wouldn't want that. Doing fine, Gene -

COME IN!
KNOCK! KNOCK!

POLICEMEN! WHAT DO YOU WANT?
BE CALM, MISS-- WE JUST WANT TO ASK A FEW QUESTIONS!
DO YOU KNOW JIM HAWKS?

OF COURSE I KNOW JIM HAWKS! I WAS JUST READING THIS LETTER FROM HIM!
NO RETURN ADDRESS, BUT THE ENVELOPE IS POSTMARKED CHICAGO!

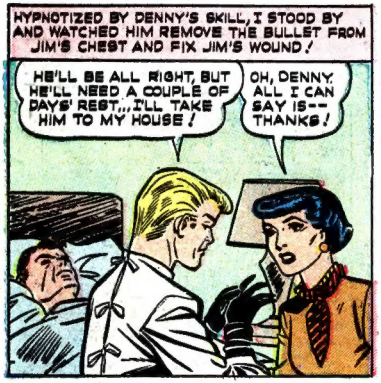
I WISH YOU WOULD TELL ME WHAT THIS IS ALL ABOUT!
CERTAINLY! WE'RE ANXIOUS TO FIND JIM HAWKS!
WE WANT TO QUESTION HIM ABOUT SOME RECENT ROBBERIES IN CHICAGO!

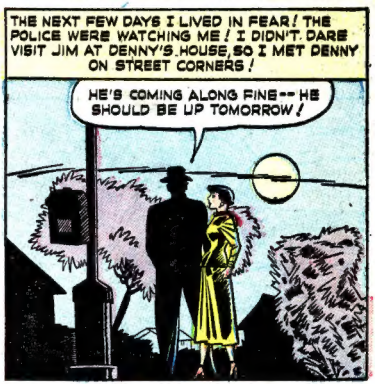
WHY DON'T YOU STOP HOUNDING HIM! HE'S WORKING HARD TO MAKE AN HONEST LIFE FOR HIMSELF! WHY CAN'T YOU LEAVE HIM ALONE!
LET'S GO, TOM!
YEAH!

THINGS WERE BECOMING MORE AND MORE UNBEARABLE... EVERYONE IN TOWN WAS TALKING ABOUT THE RECENT CRIME WAVE IN CHICAGO... AND IT HAD BEEN IN THE PAPERS THAT THE POLICE WERE LOOKING FOR JIM!
$30,000 WERE STOLEN IN FURS!
G'MORNING, THERESA!
I PRAYED THAT JIM WOULD SEND FOR ME! PEOPLE I GREW UP WITH WERE BEGINNING TO WHISPER ABOUT ME NOW!
AND AT HOME I WOULDN'T EVEN LISTEN TO THE RADIO! THE NEWS FLASHES OF THE CHICAGO BURGLARIES WERE DRIVING ME FRANTIC... BUT MY FAITH IN JIM WAS UNSHAKABLE... I LOVED HIM!
THEN ONE NIGHT WHEN I CAME HOME...
JIM!
THERESA, BABY! I'M HURT BAD! THERE'S A BULLET IN MY CHEST!
OH, MY DARLING... I'LL CALL A DOCTOR RIGHT AWAY!
NO, BABY... HE'LL ONLY REPORT IT TO THE POLICE!... I'VE BEEN FRAMED!
THEN I'LL GET DENNY FALWELL RIGHT AWAY... HE'LL TAKE CARE OF YOU WITHOUT TELLING THE POLICE!

DESPERATELY, I PLEADED WITH DENNY!
I'M SORRY, THERESA! IF I REMOVE A BULLET, I MUST REPORT IT, AND IF HE'S INNOCENT, HE HAS NOTHING TO FEAR!
YES, HE HAS! HE'S BEEN FRAMED! WHILE YOU TAKE TIME TO ARGUE, JIM MIGHT DIE! AND YOU WERE ONCE MY FRIEND!

ALL RIGHT, THERESA! IF THIS MEANS SO MUCH TO YOU, I'LL DO IT YOUR WAY! YOU SEE, OTHER PEOPLE KNOW WHAT LOVE IS, AND I'VE LOVED YOU A LONG TIME! I'LL BE RIGHT OVER!


HYPNOTIZED BY DENNY'S SKILL, I STOOD BY AND WATCHED HIM REMOVE THE BULLET FROM JIM'S CHEST AND FIX JIM'S WOUND!
HE'LL BE ALL RIGHT, BUT HE'LL NEED A COUPLE OF DAYS' REST... I'LL TAKE HIM TO MY HOUSE!
OH, DENNY, ALL I CAN SAY IS-- THANKS!


THE NEXT FEW DAYS I LIVED IN FEAR! THE POLICE WERE WATCHING ME! I DIDN'T DARE VISIT JIM AT DENNY'S HOUSE, SO I MET DENNY ON STREET CORNERS!
HE'S COMING ALONG FINE-- HE SHOULD BE UP TOMORROW!

AND THE NEXT DAY...
JIM LEFT, THERESA, AND HE GAVE ME THIS ENVELOPE FOR YOU!
I DON'T UNDERSTAND!

IT'S MONEY... THOUSANDS OF DOLLARS!
AND A NOTE FROM HIM... "PLEASE HOLD THIS FOR ME... IT'S THIRTY THOUSAND DOLLARS I SAVED IN CHICAGO! PLEASE TRUST ME! JIM..."

I DIDN'T SLEEP THAT NIGHT...
JIM COULDN'T HAVE EARNED ALL THAT MONEY IN SUCH A SHORT TIME!
AND THE NEXT MORNING I DECIDED I MUST GO TO THE POLICE!
THANKS A LOT, LADY-- THIS IS STOLEN MONEY!
THAT'S WHAT I MUST FIND OUT... HOW CAN YOU BE SURE JIM DIDN'T EARN IT HONESTLY?
SIMPLE! THESE ARE MARKED BILLS, AND YOU MAY BE INTERESTED TO KNOW THAT OUR MEN CAUGHT JIM HAWKS A COUPLE OF HOURS AGO, AND HE MADE A FULL CONFESSION!
I CAN'T BELIEVE IT!
IT'S TRUE, ALL RIGHT! OUR BALLISTICS EXPERT IS WORKING ON THE BULLET DR. FALWELL REMOVED FROM HIM! WE THINK IT WAS FIRED FROM THE GUN OF AN OFFICER, WHO CHASED A THUG MAKING A GETAWAY!
DO YOU KNOW ABOUT DR. FALWELL?
YES, IT WAS PART OF HAWKS' CONFESSION! BRING IN DR. FALWELL, BOYS!
SURE, CHIEF!
HERE'S THE BALLISTICS REPORT, CHIEF! THE BULLET WAS FIRED FROM THAT POLICEMAN'S GUN!
OH!
CHIEF
7

OH, DENNY, DENNY... I'VE BEEN SO BLIND!
LOVE IS LIKE THAT SOMETIMES... BUT DON'T BE TOO HARD ON YOURSELF, DEAR! YOU'RE A VERY TRUSTING, FAITHFUL PERSON... IT'S JUST THAT YOUR DEVOTION WAS MISPLACED!
DENNY... YOU'RE IN TROUBLE BECAUSE OF THIS!
AFRAID SO, THERESA...
PLEASE, YOU MUSTN'T BLAME DR. FALWELL! BLAME ME... I MADE HIM DO IT! IT WAS ALL MY FAULT! PUT ME IN JAIL!
SHE DOESN'T KNOW WHAT SHE'S SAYING, CHIEF! DON'T PAY ANY ATTENTION TO HER!
NO! NO!
QUIET, BOTH OF YOU! WE HAVE NOTHING AGAINST YOU, MISS! AS FOR YOU, DR. FALWELL, I'M AWARE OF WHAT YOU'VE DONE, AND YOUR REASON!
BUT I ALSO KNOW THAT YOU PERFORMED AN OPERATION ON MY LITTLE GIRL, AND YOU WOULDN'T TAKE A PENNY FOR IT FROM ME--BECAUSE YOU KNEW I BORROWED THE MONEY TO PAY YOU! YOU'VE DONE THINGS LIKE THAT FOR HUNDREDS OF PEOPLE IN THIS TOWN! NOW RUN ALONG... BOTH OF YOU... I'M A BUSY MAN!
THERESA, THE NEXT TIME YOU FALL IN LOVE--MAKE IT ME!
IT'S ALREADY HAPPENED, DENNY, AND I'LL SPEND THE REST OF MY LIFE PROVING IT TO YOU!
THE END

Special MONEY SAVING Offer!

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- With Anti-Tarnish Sweep Second Hand
- With Glow-in-the-Dark Numerals

Keeps Perfect Time

Guaranteed for One Year!

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Performs and looks like Watches selling for 3 and 4 times this LOW PRICE

Low Price Of This Offer Includes:

1. Genuine Leather Watch Band
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You get them BOTH with this Watch for this ONE LOW PRICE

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☐ Rush me the New, Precision-Built Wrist Watch with Sweep Second Hand and genuine leather band. Include Metal Expansion Band at no Extra Cost. On arrival I will pay the postman only $4.95 plus 10% Gov't. Tax and C.O.D. postage charges. If not delighted in every way, I may return Watch in original condition within 10 days for prompt return.

☐ Include All-Metal Flexible Band at No Extra Cost
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☐ To save C.O.D. charges, enclosed is $4.95, plus 10% Federal tax. Total $5.45. Send Prepaid on Money-Back Guarantee.
☐ Send 2 Prepaid. Enclosed is $10.00 on Money-Back Guarantee Offer.

IT ALL STARTED IN 1945, IN THE PACIFIC! LITTLE DID I DREAM THAT IT WOULD RESULT IN MY BEING...

HATED BY THE MAN I LOVE!

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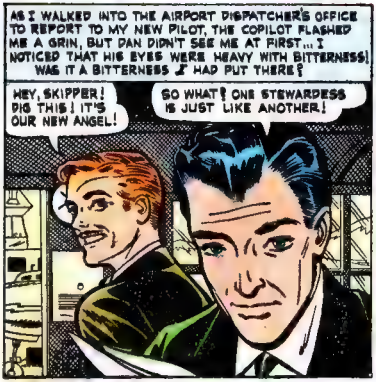
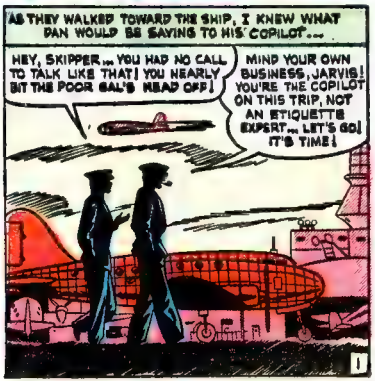
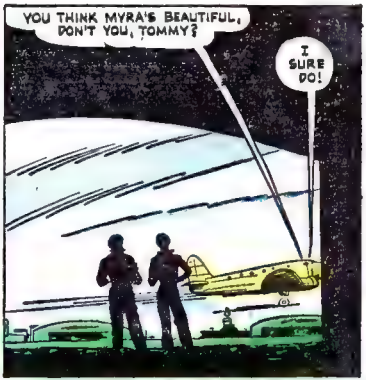
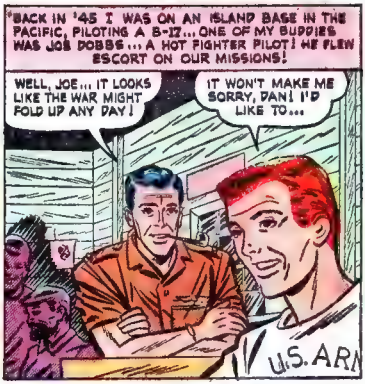




SOON WE TOOK OFF! I SUPPOSE IT WAS WRONG, BUT I HAD TO BE NEAR DAN, TO HEAR THE SOUND OF HIS VOICE... I BUSIED MYSELF IN THE NAVIGATOR'S COMPARTMENT WHERE I COULD OVERHEAR HIM...
SORRY, TOMMY! I LOST MY TEMPER A BIT... YOU KNOW HOW IT IS!
YEAH, IT'S THE GIRL, ISN'T IT, SKIPPER? SHE UPSET YOU! MAYBE YOU'D BETTER GET IT OFF YOUR CHEST... IT'S A LONG WAY TO THE COAST... MAYBE TALKIN'LL HELP!

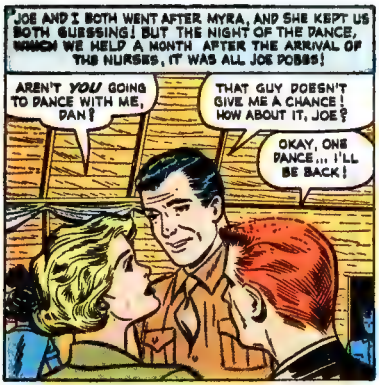

YOU THINK MYRA'S BEAUTIFUL, DON'T YOU, TOMMY?
I SURE DO!

SHE HAS A BEAUTIFUL FACE, TOMMY... AND THE SOUL OF A DEVIL! MYRA KANE USED HER BEAUTY TO WRECK A MAN! I'VE SEEN HER IN ACTION, TOMMY... SHE'S DANGEROUS!


BACK IN '45 I WAS ON AN ISLAND BASE IN THE PACIFIC, PILOTING A B-17... ONE OF MY BUDDIES WAS JOE DOBBS... A HOT FIGHTER PILOT! HE FLEW ESCORT ON OUR MISSIONS!
WELL, JOE... IT LOOKS LIKE THE WAR MIGHT FOLD UP ANY DAY!
IT WON'T MAKE ME SORRY, DAN! I'D LIKE TO...
U.S. ARM

THEY'RE HERE! THEY'RE HERE! REAL LIVE GIRLS! NURSES!
NO FOOLIN'? WHOOPEE!
WHAT'RE WE STANDIN' HERE FOR? C'MON!
U.S. ARM

THEY HAD BUILT A SMALL HOSPITAL AT OUR BASE... AND THE NURSES WERE THERE TO STAY! IT WAS THEN THAT I HAD MY FIRST GLIMPSE OF MYRA!
WOW! LOOK AT THAT ONE! I WANT HER FOR CHRISTMAS!
YOU AIN'T KIDDIN!


JOE AND I BOTH WENT AFTER MYRA, AND SHE KEPT US BOTH GUESSING! BUT THE NIGHT OF THE DANCE, WHICH WE HELD A MONTH AFTER THE ARRIVAL OF THE NURSES, IT WAS ALL JOE DOBBS!
AREN'T YOU GOING TO DANCE WITH ME, DAN?
THAT GUY DOESN'T GIVE ME A CHANCE! HOW ABOUT IT, JOE?
OKAY, ONE DANCE... I'LL BE BACK!

MYRA, LOOK AT ME! WHY DON'T YOU STOP THIS SEE-SAW? MAKE UP YOUR MIND... IT'S JOE OR ME! GIVE IT TO US STRAIGHT... PECIDE!
I... DAN, I TOLD JOE TONIGHT THAT I'D MARRY HIM!

WELL, I GUESS THAT DOBS IT! IT'S BEEN NICE KNOWING YOU, MYRA! INVITE ME UP TO DINNER SOME TIME... AFTER THE WAR, YOU KNOW...
BUT, DAN... I HAVEN'T FINISHED! COME OUTSIDE...

WHAT IS IT, MYRA?
DAN, I DON'T THINK YOU UNDERSTAND! I HAD TO SAY YES... YOU SEE HE'S GOT AN IMPORTANT MISSION TO FLY TONIGHT, AND...

SO YOU'LL WAIT TILL HE MAKES IT SAFELY AND THEN LET HIM DOWN WITH A THUD, HUH, MYRA?
NO... I DON'T WANT TO LET HIM DOWN! BUT... DON'T YOU SEE... I JUST COULDN'T SAY NO! IF YOU'D SEEN THE LOOK IN HIS EYES! OH, DAN, I'M SO CONFUSED! I...

OH, DAN! DAN... IT'S YOU I LOVE!
HUH? I...!

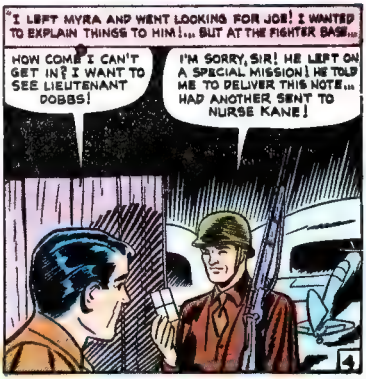
SHE KISSED ME, AND I WAS RETURNING THE KISS, WHEN...
SO THAT'S WHAT GOES ON BEHIND MY BACK! LET HER GO, YOU RAT!
WAIT A MINUTE, JOE!
JOE... I HAVE TO TELL YOU SOMETHING...

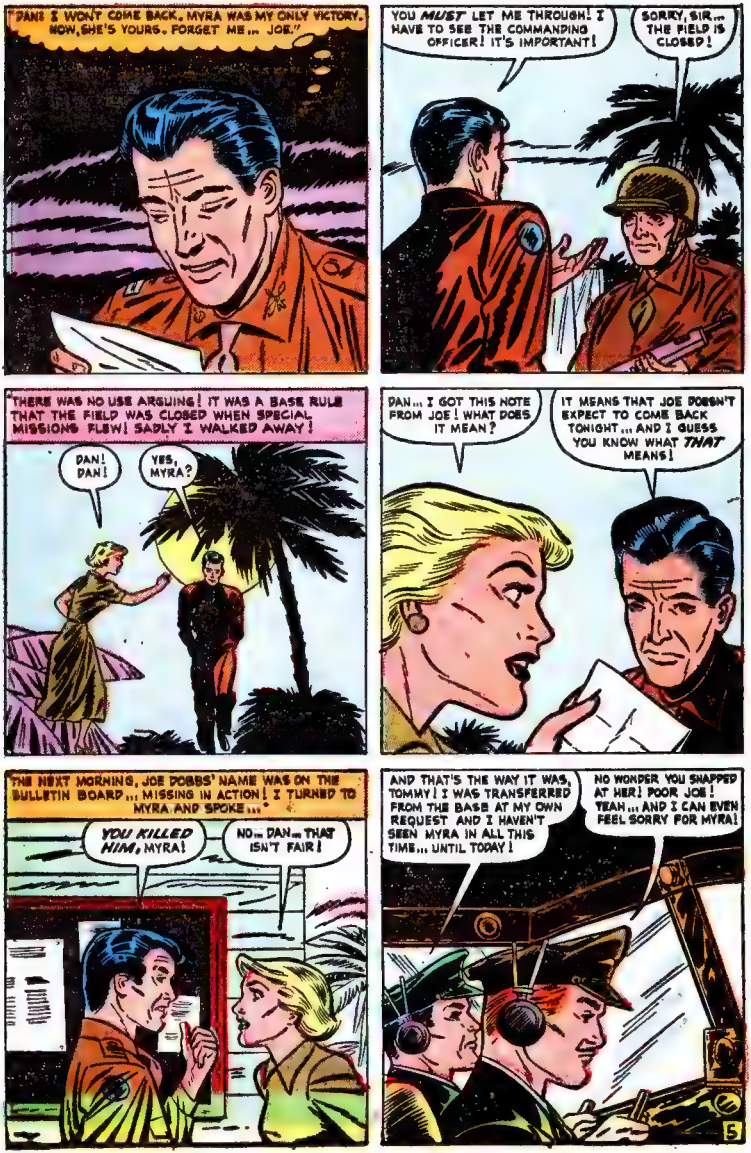
YOU'VE TOLD ME PLENTY! YOU SAID YOU CARED FOR ME! YOU JUST MADE A FOOL OUT OF ME... AND ALL THE WHILE THIS WAS GOING ON!
JOE... YOU'RE WRONG... DEAD WRONG!

YEAH? WELL, THIS ISN'T WRONG!
JOE!

DAN! DAN! ARE YOU HURT?
I'M ALL RIGHT, MYRA!

I'M SORRY ABOUT JOE AND YOU, DAN! YOU WERE SUCH GOOD FRIENDS!... IT'S ALL MY FAULT!
MYRA, YOU'RE A SMART GIRL! YOU DON'T BELIEVE IN PUTTING YOUR EGGS IN ONE BASKET! PLAY JOE... PLAY ME... MYRA WINS! WELL, SISTER, THIS IS ONE HAND YOU'RE NOT WINNING! I'M THROWING IN MY CARDS RIGHT NOW!


I LEFT MYRA AND WENT LOOKING FOR JOE! I WANTED TO EXPLAIN THINGS TO HIM!... BUT AT THE FIGHTER BASE...
HOW COME I CAN'T GET IN? I WANT TO SEE LIEUTENANT DOBBS!
I'M SORRY, SIR! HE LEFT ON A SPECIAL MISSION! HE TOLD ME TO DELIVER THIS NOTE... HAD ANOTHER SENT TO NURSE KANE!


DAN! I WON'T COME BACK. MYRA WAS MY ONLY VICTORY. NOW, SHE'S YOURS. FORGET ME... JOE."
YOU MUST LET ME THROUGH! I HAVE TO SEE THE COMMANDING OFFICER! IT'S IMPORTANT!
SORRY, SIR... THE FIELD IS CLOSED!
THERE WAS NO USE ARGUING! IT WAS A BASE RULE THAT THE FIELD WAS CLOSED WHEN SPECIAL MISSIONS FLEW! SADLY I WALKED AWAY!
DAN! DAN!
YES, MYRA?
DAN... I GOT THIS NOTE FROM JOE! WHAT DOES IT MEAN?
IT MEANS THAT JOE DOESN'T EXPECT TO COME BACK TONIGHT... AND I GUESS YOU KNOW WHAT THAT MEANS!
THE NEXT MORNING, JOE DOBBS' NAME WAS ON THE BULLETIN BOARD... MISSING IN ACTION! I TURNED TO MYRA AND SPOKE...
YOU KILLED HIM, MYRA!
NO... DAN... THAT ISN'T FAIR!
AND THAT'S THE WAY IT WAS, TOMMY! I WAS TRANSFERRED FROM THE BASE AT MY OWN REQUEST AND I HAVEN'T SEEN MYRA IN ALL THIS TIME... UNTIL TODAY!
NO WONDER YOU SNAPPED AT HER! POOR JOE! YEAH... AND I CAN EVEN FEEL SORRY FOR MYRA!
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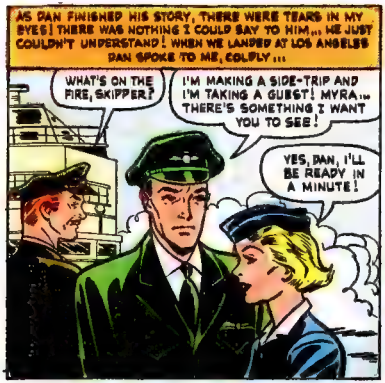
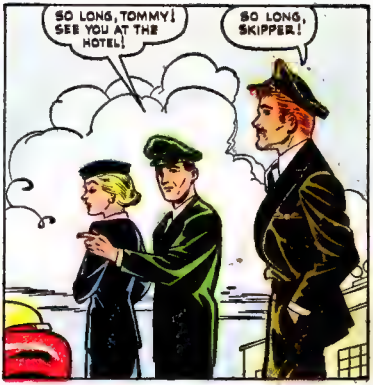
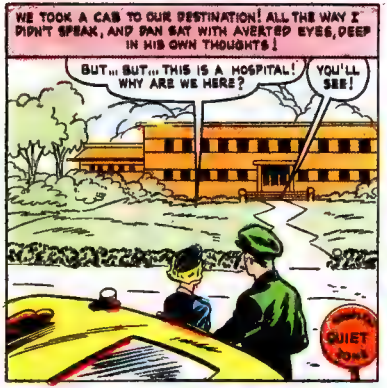

AS DAN FINISHED HIS STORY, THERE WERE TEARS IN MY EYES! THERE WAS NOTHING I COULD SAY TO HIM... WE JUST COULDN'T UNDERSTAND! WHEN WE LANDED AT LOS ANGELES DAN SPOKE TO ME, COLDLY...
WHAT'S ON THE FIRE, SKIPPER?
I'M MAKING A SIDE-TRIP AND I'M TAKING A GUEST! MYRA... THERE'S SOMETHING I WANT YOU TO SEE!
YES, DAN, I'LL BE READY IN A MINUTE!

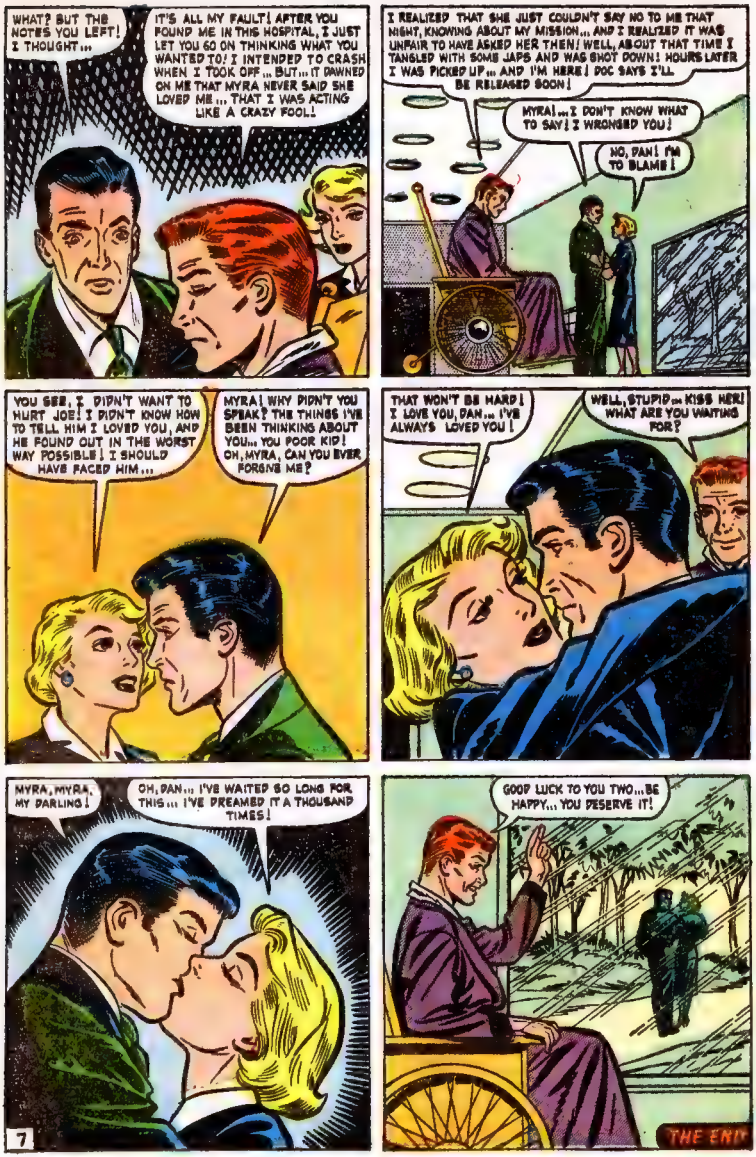

SO LONG, TOMMY! SEE YOU AT THE HOTEL!
SO LONG, SKIPPER!


WE TOOK A CAB TO OUR DESTINATION! ALL THE WAY I DIDN'T SPEAK, AND DAN SAT WITH AVERTED EYES, DEEP IN HIS OWN THOUGHTS!
BUT... BUT... THIS IS A HOSPITAL! WHY ARE WE HERE?
YOU'LL SEE!
QUIET ZONE

I FOLLOWED DAN TO THE HOSPITAL TERRACE, HARDLY KNOWING WHAT TO EXPECT...
HEY, SOLDIER! I BROUGHT YOU A VISITOR!
HI, DAN! I'LL TURN THIS GADGET AROUND...

JOE!! JOE DOBBS!
MYRA! WHAT'S ALL THIS, DAN?

I THOUGHT YOU'D LIKE TO SEE HER, JOE... THOUGH IT ISN'T HER FAULT THAT YOU'RE ALIVE! MANY GUYS DON'T EVER COME OUT OF A CRASH!
DAN! YOU'RE... WRONG! I'VE LET YOU THINK THINGS TOO LONG! MY PLANE... WELL... IT WASN'T THE WAY YOU THINK! I WAS SHOT DOWN, DAN! I DIDN'T CRASH ON PURPOSE!


WHAT? BUT THE NOTES YOU LEFT! I THOUGHT...
IT'S ALL MY FAULT! AFTER YOU FOUND ME IN THIS HOSPITAL, I JUST LET YOU GO ON THINKING WHAT YOU WANTED TO! I INTENDED TO CRASH WHEN I TOOK OFF... BUT... IT DAWNED ON ME THAT MYRA NEVER SAID SHE LOVED ME... THAT I WAS ACTING LIKE A CRAZY FOOL!
I REALIZED THAT SHE JUST COULDN'T SAY NO TO ME THAT NIGHT, KNOWING ABOUT MY MISSION... AND I REALIZED IT WAS UNFAIR TO HAVE ASKED HER THEN! WELL, ABOUT THAT TIME I TANGLED WITH SOME JAPS AND WAS SHOT DOWN! HOURS LATER I WAS PICKED UP... AND I'M HERE! DOC SAYS I'LL BE RELEASED SOON!
MYRA!... I DON'T KNOW WHAT TO SAY! I WRONGED YOU!
NO, DAN! I'M TO BLAME!
YOU SEE, I DIDN'T WANT TO HURT JOE! I DIDN'T KNOW HOW TO TELL HIM I LOVED YOU, AND HE FOUND OUT IN THE WORST WAY POSSIBLE! I SHOULD HAVE FACED HIM...
MYRA! WHY DIDN'T YOU SPEAK? THE THINGS I'VE BEEN THINKING ABOUT YOU... YOU POOR KID! OH, MYRA, CAN YOU EVER FORGIVE ME?
THAT WON'T BE HARD! I LOVE YOU, DAN... I'VE ALWAYS LOVED YOU!
WELL, STUPID... KISS HER! WHAT ARE YOU WAITING FOR?
MYRA, MYRA, MY DARLING!
OH, DAN... I'VE WAITED SO LONG FOR THIS... I'VE DREAMED IT A THOUSAND TIMES!
GOOD LUCK TO YOU TWO... BE HAPPY... YOU DESERVE IT!
THE END
7

Let's Go, Pal! I'll prove I can make YOU an "ALL-AROUND" HE-MAN

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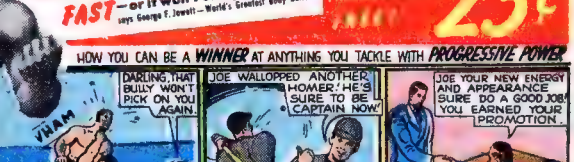

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Are You In Love?

Just because there's a full moon, music in the air, and romance on your mind . . . does it mean that the fellow you're with is the right one for you? Are you simply in the mood, or—are you in love?

Love Can Be Different . . .

I'm going with a fellow now who is different from any man I've ever dated. He never misses an opportunity to make my life just a little sweeter and happier. I must admit that I'm not used to this sort of delicate treatment, and it confuses me. I've never had a flowers-and-candy boy friend before, and although I'm deeply flattered, I don't think that I'm in love with him. I like being with him because he always selects an interesting place for us to spend an evening, but somehow I don't feel that excitement that you read about in books or see in the movies. I'm convinced that he is a wonderful person who thinks of me before anyone else, and that is the highest compliment I've ever been paid!

O. B.
Chicago, Illinois

No Pride About Love . . .

My friends say that I have no pride about love because the man I'm in love with went steady with another girl before he began dating me. I had always secretly been in love with him, but it was only after his girl friend jilted him that he paid any attention to me. I know he is dating me on the rebound, but it doesn't matter to me. He is about 5' 10" with the waviest brown hair I've ever seen. He's also a smooth dancer, and it is a wonderful feeling to float across the floor in his arms.

He is more mature than most of the fellows in our crowd, but I admire him for this. He likes to live at a faster pace than they do, but why not?

My parents say that this boy isn't good for me, but I can't give him up. They say that I'm just infatuated because he has played hard-to-get, but I think it is real love.

R. M.
Tulsa, Oklahoma

Once Is Enough . . .

I don't think I'll ever fall in love! I gave Mr. Cupid an opportunity a couple of years ago, but all that he gave me in return was a broken heart. I went steady with a fellow for six months, and during that time, I did everything possible to be pleasant and understanding. I never looked at another man during that time, nor did I want to. I thought he was the most wonderful person in the world.

I found out how wonderful he was when I saw him with another girl one night after he had broken a date with me! When I heard him telling her the same line he had been giving me, you can imagine how I felt. I gave love a chance once and it made me look like a fool. I'm determined not to make the same mistake twice!

N. A.
Harrisburg, Pa.

Baltimore Girl Says It's Easy

I know that I'm in love without any doubt! When you feel toward anyone what I feel toward Joe, it must be love. I don't care whether we go to a movie or just sit at home and play records as long as we are together. Joe and I met about three weeks ago at a birthday party, and I haven't wanted to date anyone since then. He is a terrific swimmer, and we've been having wonderful times at the city indoor pool every afternoon after school.

My mother doesn't take our romance seriously, but we consider ourselves engaged. We both are eighteen years old and will be graduating soon. Do you think that we are really in love?

K. V.
Baltimore, Md.

Easy-Going Girl Has Easy-Going Love . . .

I'm one who believes firmly in love at first sight because that is what happened to me! I fell in love for the first time in my life, the first time I met Jim. He had just moved into our neighborhood, and his sister introduced me to him. As soon as our eyes met, it was like an unwritten agreement that there would never be anyone else.

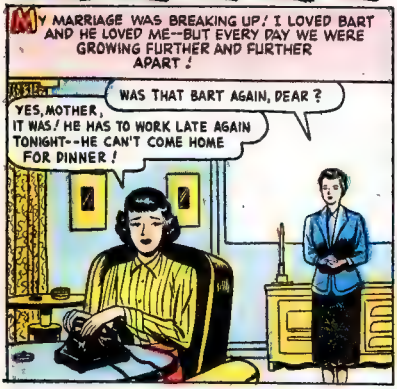
Jim and I have never had a disagreement about anything yet, and I doubt if we ever will. He is easy-going, and I guess I am too. We both would rather stay home and talk or go for a short walk than be entertained at fancy night clubs. Both Jim and I were brought up on the farm, so that we have similar backgrounds, and that is the most important factor in our love. I'm awfully happy knowing that I'm really in love!

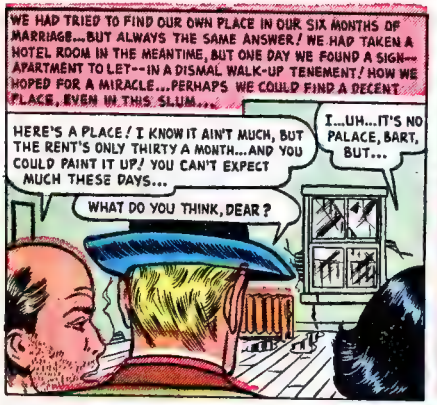
R. H.
St. Marys, Ohio

WHAT CHANCES OF HAPPINESS COULD BART AND I HAVE WITHOUT A PLACE OF OUR OWN TO LIVE IN? CAN MARRIAGE, WITHOUT AN APARTMENT, EVER SUCCEED? OR IS THAT ALL OF THE TIMES...

WHEN LOVE COMES TOO SOON!

5530

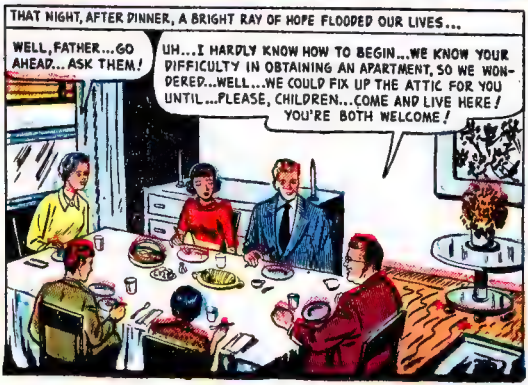



WE HAD TRIED TO FIND OUR OWN PLACE IN OUR SIX MONTHS OF MARRIAGE...BUT ALWAYS THE SAME ANSWER! WE HAD TAKEN A HOTEL ROOM IN THE MEANTIME, BUT ONE DAY WE FOUND A SIGN--APARTMENT TO LET--IN A DISMAL WALK-UP TENEMENT! HOW WE HOPED FOR A MIRACLE...PERHAPS WE COULD FIND A DECENT PLACE, EVEN IN THIS SLUM...
HERE'S A PLACE! I KNOW IT AIN'T MUCH, BUT THE RENT'S ONLY THIRTY A MONTH...AND YOU COULD PAINT IT UP! YOU CAN'T EXPECT MUCH THESE DAYS...
I...UH...IT'S NO PALACE, BART, BUT...
WHAT DO YOU THINK, DEAR?

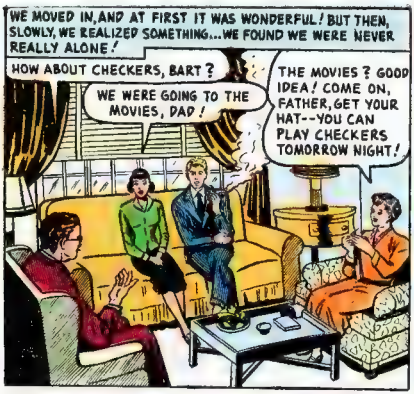
OH, BEFORE I FORGET...THERE'S A LITTLE MATTER OF THREE HUNDRED BUCKS...ON THE SIDE, YOU UNDERSTAND! AFTER ALL, I AIN'T DOIN' CHARITY WORK!
THREE HUNDRED DOLLARS! WHY, YOU...I SWEATED OUT FOUR YEARS IN THE ARMY...AND THIS IS WHAT I'VE COME HOME TO? I'D LIKE TO PUNCH YOUR HEAD IN!
HONEY...PLEASE...LET'S GO!

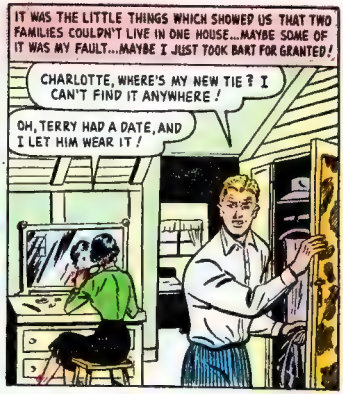
YAH, YOU'RE LIKE ALL OF THEM VETS...EXPECTIN' SOMETHIN' FOR NOTHIN'...
BART, DARLING...DON'T DO ANYTHING...PLEASE KEEP YOUR TEMPER!
YEAH, I'LL KEEP MY TEMPER! I WOULDN'T EVEN DIRTY MY HANDS ON HIM!

WE WERE CAUGHT IN THE COLD GRIP OF DESPAIR--THERE SEEMED TO BE NO WAY OUT! WHY, I THOUGHT BITTERLY, COULDN'T WE GET A BREAK...YOUNG PEOPLE DESERVED A CHANCE...
HONEY, I DON'T KNOW WHAT TO DO--THIS HOTEL ROOM IS KEEPING US BROKE! WE'LL HAVE TO MOVE OUT...BUT WHERE...
WE'VE TRIED EVERYTHING--EVEN THOSE DAMP BASEMENT APARTMENTS THAT AREN'T FIT FOR PEOPLE TO LIVE IN! BUT TONIGHT WE'RE GOING TO MY FOLKS FOR DINNER--AT LEAST WE'LL HAVE A GOOD HOME-COOKED MEAL, INSTEAD OF EATING IN A RESTAURANT!


THAT NIGHT, AFTER DINNER, A BRIGHT RAY OF HOPE FLOODED OUR LIVES...
WELL, FATHER...GO AHEAD...ASK THEM!
UH...I HARDLY KNOW HOW TO BEGIN...WE KNOW YOUR DIFFICULTY IN OBTAINING AN APARTMENT, SO WE WONDERED...WELL...WE COULD FIX UP THE ATTIC FOR YOU UNTIL...PLEASE, CHILDREN...COME AND LIVE HERE! YOU'RE BOTH WELCOME!

IT'S UP TO BART! WHAT DO YOU THINK, HONEY?
I...I...WHAT'S THERE TO SAY?
GOOD! THEN IT'S SETTLED! WE'LL HAVE THE ATTIC SNUG AND SHIPSHAPE IN NO TIME...YOU'LL MOVE IN NEXT WEEK!


WE MOVED IN, AND AT FIRST IT WAS WONDERFUL! BUT THEN, SLOWLY, WE REALIZED SOMETHING...WE FOUND WE WERE NEVER REALLY ALONE!
HOW ABOUT CHECKERS, BART?
WE WERE GOING TO THE MOVIES, DAD!
THE MOVIES? GOOD IDEA! COME ON, FATHER, GET YOUR HAT--YOU CAN PLAY CHECKERS TOMORROW NIGHT!


IT WAS THE LITTLE THINGS WHICH SHOWED US THAT TWO FAMILIES COULDN'T LIVE IN ONE HOUSE...MAYBE SOME OF IT WAS MY FAULT...MAYBE I JUST TOOK BART FOR GRANTED!
CHARLOTTE, WHERE'S MY NEW TIE? I CAN'T FIND IT ANYWHERE!
OH, TERRY HAD A DATE, AND I LET HIM WEAR IT!

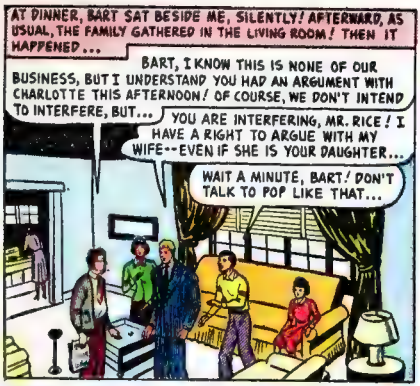
LISTEN...IN THE FUTURE I DON'T WANT YOUR BROTHER MESSING AROUND WITH MY CLOTHES...OR WEARING MY TIES! UNDERSTAND?
BUT...BUT I DON'T UNDERSTAND... IT'S ONLY A TIE...

ONLY A TIE! IT'S ALWAYS SOMETHING! WHEREVER I TURN...I CAN'T EVEN READ THE PAPER IN PEACE! WE'RE NEVER TOGETHER! IF WE STAY IN OUR ROOM, THEY THINK WE SHOULD BE DOWNSTAIRS--IF WE GO OUT, ONE OF THEM IS SURE TO TAG ALONG!
JUST A MINUTE, BART--YOU'RE SPEAKING ABOUT MY FAMILY! DON'T FORGET--WE'RE LIVING IN THEIR HOUSE!

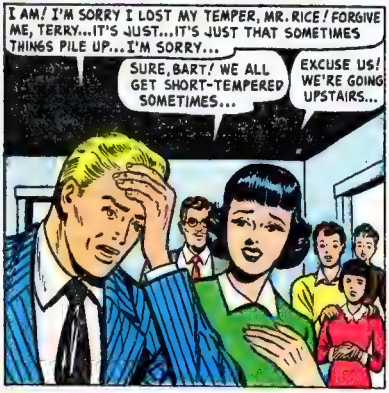
THAT WAS THE FIRST TIME I EVER SAW BART ANGRY! HE STORMED OUT OF THE ROOM, SLAMMING THE DOOR... WHILE I STOOD THERE, NUMBED BY THE SUDDENNESS OF HIS FURY!
SLAM!

CHARLOTTE...WHAT HAPPENED? I HEARD BART SHOUTING, AND JUST PASSED HIM ON THE STAIRS! HAVE YOU TWO HAD AN ARGUMENT?
YES, MOTHER... WE DID...

I COULDN'T HOLD BACK THE TEARS AND I SOBBED IN MOTHER'S ARMS...
HE SHOUTED AT ME...MOTHER... IT WAS AWFUL!
THERE, THERE! YOUR FATHER AND I WILL HAVE A TALK WITH BART TONIGHT--YOU FORGET ALL ABOUT IT!
5


AT DINNER, BART SAT BESIDE ME, SILENTLY! AFTERWARD, AS USUAL, THE FAMILY GATHERED IN THE LIVING ROOM! THEN IT HAPPENED...
BART, I KNOW THIS IS NONE OF OUR BUSINESS, BUT I UNDERSTAND YOU HAD AN ARGUMENT WITH CHARLOTTE THIS AFTERNOON! OF COURSE, WE DON'T INTEND TO INTERFERE, BUT...
YOU ARE INTERFERING, MR. RICE! I HAVE A RIGHT TO ARGUE WITH MY WIFE--EVEN IF SHE IS YOUR DAUGHTER...
WAIT A MINUTE, BART! DON'T TALK TO POP LIKE THAT...

YOU KEEP YOUR MOUTH SHUT...AND STAY AWAY FROM MY TIES! I'M NOT BUYING CLOTHES FOR YOU TO RUN AROUND IN WITH BOBBY-SOXERS!
BART! STOP THAT... THIS INSTANT! STOP IT, I SAY! YOU SHOULD BE ASHAMED OF YOURSELF!


I AM! I'M SORRY I LOST MY TEMPER, MR. RICE! FORGIVE ME, TERRY...IT'S JUST...IT'S JUST THAT SOMETIMES THINGS PILE UP...I'M SORRY...
SURE, BART! WE ALL GET SHORT-TEMPERED SOMETIMES...
EXCUSE US! WE'RE GOING UPSTAIRS...

WE WENT UP TO OUR ATTIC ROOM AND BART SLUMPED DOWN...A STRANGER TO ME...THIS MAN I LOVED...MY HUSBAND! HE'D ALWAYS BEEN GAY, WISECRACKING...WITH NONE OF THE DARK MOODS SWEEPING HIM, WITHOUT THE QUICK BURSTS OF ANGER...
THAT WAS A NICE PERFORMANCE, BART--I HOPE YOU'RE PLEASED WITH IT!
I SAID I WAS SORRY--I APOLOGIZED! WHAT MORE DO YOU WANT ME TO DO?

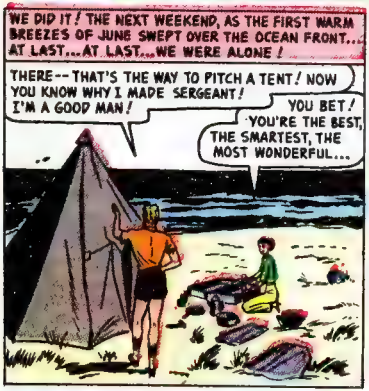
THEN, IN THE NEXT INSTANT, HE WAS ON HIS FEET, HIS ARMS AROUND ME, HOLDING ME CLOSE...AND MY SHATTERING WORLD WAS REBUILT!
IF ONLY WE COULD BE TOGETHER... ALONE! IF WE COULD ONLY GO AWAY FOR WEEKENDS!
BUT WE CAN'T--IT'S TOO EXPENSIVE!

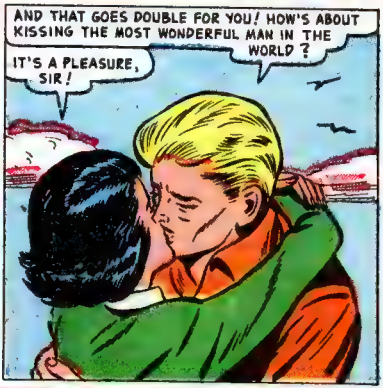
FOR A FEW WEEKS EVERYTHING WENT SMOOTHLY! BUT ONCE A PATTERN IS FORMED, IT IS DIFFICULT TO CHANGE IT...AND SOON WE REVERTED TO THE OLD WAYS!
WHERE ARE YOU GOING, CHILDREN?
JUST FOR A WALK, MOM... WE'LL PROBABLY STOP OFF FOR A SODA!
GOOD... LET'S ALL GO! THE TREAT'S ON ME! COME ON, KIDS!

AND THAT'S THE WAY IT WAS--WE DID NOTHING ALONE! IF BETTY AND TERRY DIDN'T ACCOMPANY US, MOTHER AND FATHER DID! GRADUALLY BART SLIPPED AWAY FROM ME...FOR THREE SUCCESSIVE DAYS HE DID NOT COME HOME FOR DINNER...WORKING LATE, HE CLAIMED! BUT IN MY HEART, I KNEW BETTER...

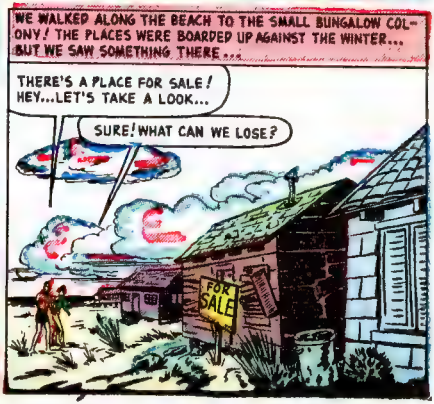
THAT THIRD NIGHT...I WALKED AIMLESSLY AROUND THE STREETS, UNTIL I DECIDED A CUP OF COFFEE WOULD SET ME RIGHT! I ENTERED THE RESTAURANT, AND THERE WAS BART!
BART! HELLO, DARLING!
OH, CHAR! I WAS GOING TO CALL YOU--ASK YOU TO MEET ME! I HAVE A PLAN, CHAR! A WONDERFUL PLAN!

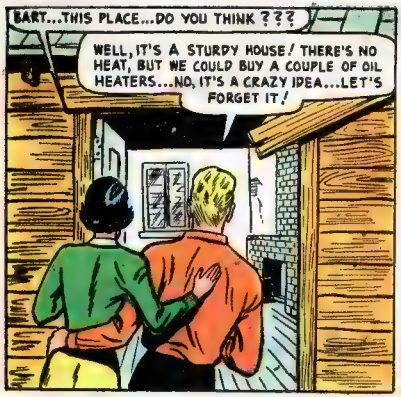
LISTEN, BABY...THE WARM WEATHER'S ON US! WHY CAN'T WE BUY ONE OF THOSE ARMY TENTS AND, EVERY WEEKEND, CAMP AT THE BEACH? WE'LL BE ALONE...HAVE OUR WEEKENDS...AND YOU CAN COOK FOR ME! HECK, HONEY...YOU NEVER EVEN MADE A MEAL FOR JUST THE TWO OF US!
OH, BART! IT'S A WONDERFUL IDEA!


WE DID IT! THE NEXT WEEKEND, AS THE FIRST WARM BREEZES OF JUNE SWEPT OVER THE OCEAN FRONT... AT LAST...AT LAST...WE WERE ALONE!
THERE--THAT'S THE WAY TO PITCH A TENT! NOW YOU KNOW WHY I MADE SERGEANT! I'M A GOOD MAN!
YOU BET! YOU'RE THE BEST, THE SMARTEST, THE MOST WONDERFUL...

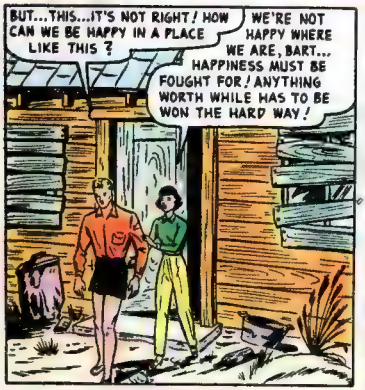

AND THAT GOES DOUBLE FOR YOU! HOW'S ABOUT KISSING THE MOST WONDERFUL MAN IN THE WORLD?
IT'S A PLEASURE, SIR!

BUT THE WEEKENDS--THE GLORIOUS WEEKENDS --DREW TO A CLOSE...BECAUSE THE CALENDAR MOVED ALONG INTO SEPTEMBER, AND IT WAS GETTING COLD...TOO COLD FOR US TO STAY AT THE SHORE!
COME ON, HONEY! LET'S TAKE A WALK!
OKAY!


WE WALKED ALONG THE BEACH TO THE SMALL BUNGALOW COLONY! THE PLACES WERE BOARDED UP AGAINST THE WINTER... BUT WE SAW SOMETHING THERE...
THERE'S A PLACE FOR SALE! HEY...LET'S TAKE A LOOK...
SURE! WHAT CAN WE LOSE?
FOR SALE

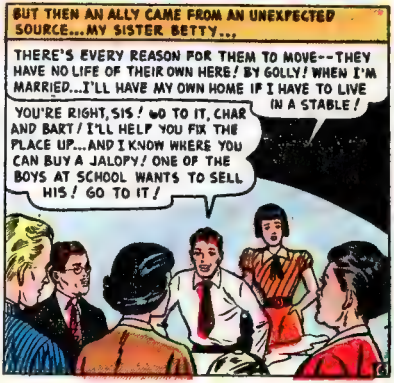

BART...THIS PLACE...DO YOU THINK ???
WELL, IT'S A STURDY HOUSE! THERE'S NO HEAT, BUT WE COULD BUY A COUPLE OF OIL HEATERS...NO, IT'S A CRAZY IDEA...LET'S FORGET IT!

SO WHAT IF IT IS CRAZY! IF WE DON'T TAKE IT, WE'LL GO BACK TO THAT ATTIC, AND LIVE THERE WITH THE FAMILY ALWAYS IN THE WAY! WE'LL GROW TO HATE EACH OTHER...AND THEM! OH, BART...THE ONLY WAY OUR MARRIAGE CAN LAST IS TO GO OUT ON OUR OWN! YOU KNOW THAT!
YES, I KNOW...I KNOW IT TOO WELL!


BUT...THIS...IT'S NOT RIGHT! HOW CAN WE BE HAPPY IN A PLACE LIKE THIS?
WE'RE NOT HAPPY WHERE WE ARE, BART... HAPPINESS MUST BE FOUGHT FOR! ANYTHING WORTH WHILE HAS TO BE WON THE HARD WAY!

YES, THERE'S NOTHING WE CAN'T DO IF WE REALLY WANT TO! I'LL FIND OUT ABOUT THIS HOUSE...OUR HOUSE! WE'LL MAKE A GO OF IT!
SURE! IT WON'T BE TOO HARD! THERE ARE STORES OPEN ALL THE YEAR 'ROUND AT THE END OF THE BEACH! OTHER PEOPLE LIVE HERE... WHY CAN'T WE?

THAT NIGHT WE TOLD THE FOLKS OF OUR PLANS... AND THE REACTION WAS NOT UNEXPECTED...
IT'S SCATTERBRAINED! YOU KIDS DON'T KNOW WHEN YOU'RE WELL OFF, RIGHT HERE!
IT'S NONSENSE! YOU HAVE A GOOD HOME WITH US! NO REASON TO MOVE OUT...YOU'LL NEED A CAR, LIVING THERE!
BUT YOU DON'T UNDERSTAND...


BUT THEN AN ALLY CAME FROM AN UNEXPECTED SOURCE...MY SISTER BETTY...
THERE'S EVERY REASON FOR THEM TO MOVE--THEY HAVE NO LIFE OF THEIR OWN HERE! BY GOLLY! WHEN I'M MARRIED...I'LL HAVE MY OWN HOME IF I HAVE TO LIVE IN A STABLE!
YOU'RE RIGHT, SIS! GO TO IT, CHAR AND BART! I'LL HELP YOU FIX THE PLACE UP...AND I KNOW WHERE YOU CAN BUY A JALOPY! ONE OF THE BOYS AT SCHOOL WANTS TO SELL HIS! GO TO IT!

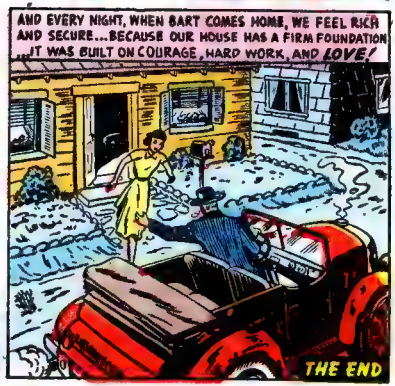
BART WENT TO THE BANK THAT OWNED THE PLACE AND GOT IT AT A VERY REASONABLE PRICE...AND THE NEXT WEEKEND, WE WENT TO WORK! TERRY AND BETTY PITCHED IN...
PHEW! I DON'T KNOW WHEN I'VE WORKED SO HARD... BUT IT'S FUN!
YOU BET-- THE BEST FUN I EVER HAD IN MY WHOLE LIFE!

BART...THERE'S SOMEBODY AT THE DOOR!
OKAY, HONEY, I'LL GO!

AND THERE...AT THE DOOR ...
MOM AND DAD! WHY...UH...WHAT..?
SON, WE WONDER IF YOU CAN USE TWO WILLING HANDS? I'VE A LOAD OF HARDWARE AND LUMBER IN THE CAR!
MOTHER! DAD! THIS IS WONDERFUL!

HONEY...WE'VE BEEN SELFISH! I GUESS WE FORGOT THAT YOU AND BART WERE GROWN-UP...THAT YOU HAVE TO BUILD YOUR OWN LIFE! YOU'RE RIGHT! WE WANTED OUR OWN PLACE WHEN WE STARTED OUT...AND IT WAS SCARCELY BETTER THAN THIS!
YES, AND WE'VE MANAGED PRETTY WELL THROUGH THE YEARS! NOW, LET'S GET TO WORK!

YOU CAN DO MIRACLES WITH WILLING HANDS, AND COURAGE AND LOVE / MOTHER AND DAD FURNISHED THE HOUSE FOR US SINCE THEY HADN'T GIVEN US A WEDDING PRESENT... AND OUR SHACK BECAME A HOME...A VERY SPECIAL HOME SINCE IT BELONGED TO BART AND ME!
7


AND EVERY NIGHT, WHEN BART COMES HOME, WE FEEL RICH AND SECURE...BECAUSE OUR HOUSE HAS A FIRM FOUNDATION ...IT WAS BUILT ON COURAGE, HARD WORK, AND LOVE!
THE END

Straight from the heart

Take a dash of moonlight . . . a spoonful of stars . . . some soft summer breezes . . . the throb of guitars . . . add the right boy or girl and you'll have a delicious, deep dish romance! If you have any difficulty following this recipe, tell our editors all about it—they'll be happy to help you!

Jealousy Ruins Romance . . .

Dear Editors,

My boy friend is eighteen years old and has developed a terrible temper. He is constantly jealous of all my friends and has forbidden me to speak to other boys. This doesn't seem fair to me, especially when he dates other girls once in a while. I do like him, but what should I do?

K. V. M.
Jackson, Miss.

Dear K. V. M.,

It doesn't take a sage to tell that this young man is going to make your life miserable, if you continue to let him. Why don't you put your foot down? This young tyrant is certainly not adding to your happiness, and that should be more important to you than keeping his friendship.

The Uncertainty of Love . . .

Dear Editors,

I have gone steady for a year with a boy who is now in the service, and yet I'm not sure that I'm in love with him. Before he left, he told me that he loved me, and I promised to wait for him. When he returns, he wants to be married. I haven't dated any other boys since he left, but still I'm not sure what I feel for him. How can I find out?

A. J.
Ashland, Ky.

Dear A. J.,

If there is a thread of doubt in your mind, you are wise to consider the question carefully. Probably the best method for discovering your true feeling is by dating other boys and comparing them with this young man. There doesn't seem to be an urgency about your decision, so take your time. Let your heart make up your mind for you.

Don't Make Love's Mistake Twice . . .

Dear Editors,

I am eighteen years old and have had little experience with men. The first boy I ever dated simply stopped taking me out a few months ago, and I have been waiting for him to call. I decided to accept other invitations, and since he has seen me out with other boys, he is interested again and has asked me out. Should I accept the date with him?

J. D. B.
Grand Rapids, Mich.

Dear J. D. B.,

Evidently you still have a soft spot in your heart for this young man or there wouldn't be a problem. This is your opportunity to play hard-to-get, just as this young man did, when you sat patiently by the telephone. Don't be too eager to run back to him. Remember *he* did the jilting before, and now you should be more cautious.

Shy Boy Wants Dates . . .

Dear Editors,

I am nearly seventeen years old, and I don't know what to say to a girl my own age or what to do when I'm with her. I'd like to ask a girl to go out with me some weekend, but I'm afraid that I will be too dull and she won't have a good time. Can you give me any suggestions?

G. L. M.
Gary, Indiana

Dear G. L. M.,

There are many boys in the same boat, so don't be so self-conscious! Begin to master the social graces by learning to dance. A girl usually likes a good dancer. It's easy to begin conversations by asking your date what she likes to do or what sports she prefers. If you'll relax, the conversations will flow smoothly, and you'll discover that it's enjoyable.

Love's a Full-time Job . . .

Dear Editors,

I plan to be married after I graduate from business school, but my fiance doesn't want me to work after we are married. I feel, however, that I should use the experience I've gained in attending school by getting a job. Which one of us is right?

J. N.
Nashville, Tenn.

Dear J. N.,

Nowadays it is a common thing for the wife to work until the newlyweds' bank account is well-established. And until home responsibilities increase, you might suggest this compromise to your husband. You see, neither of you is necessarily right or wrong. It is a question that you both must help to answer, and no one else can pass judgment.

Consideration Nourishes Romance . . .

Dear Editors,

For a year and a half I went steady with Jack, and I thought he was the most wonderful boy in the world. But recently when another girl entered the picture, Jack stopped going with me. This new girl does everything for Jack: she cooks things he likes, sews buttons on his shirts, and helps him pay for his car. I always thought a fellow didn't like a girl who did obvious things to win him. I don't understand it.

N. E. H.
Detroit, Michigan

Dear N. E. H.,

As a rule a girl doesn't have to help a fellow pay for his automobile before he'll date her, but a little demonstration of affection never hurts a romance. Of course, your heart interest appreciates this girl's thoughtfulness. We all like to know that someone thinks enough of us to go out of his way for our comfort. Don't you?

Our editors are interested in romantic problems straight from *your* heart. Send them to *My Own Romance*, Suite 1404, 350 Fifth Avenue, New York 1, New York. We are only able to answer letters which can be published in our column.

POSTPONEMENT OF LOVE

It has often been said that one brief interlude can change a human life. This is especially true, if you have always lived in a narrow world similar to the small town from which I came. You follow the same pattern so long that any deviation from that path has a lasting effect.

When I received an invitation from Sue Hastings to be a bridesmaid at her wedding in River City, I knew I'd have to refuse. There was an important event scheduled on my calendar for the same day—*my* wedding. All of Martindale had known the date for months. Bill and I knew everyone, and we were always referred to as "the childhood sweethearts." We had first met in kindergarten, and I couldn't remember a time when Bill wasn't around. Now that we had both finished college, and Bill was working at the bank, marriage was the next logical step in our lives; and neither of us ever questioned the rightness of that step.

Something in Sue Hastings' letter, however, changed my mind about refusing her invitation. "I know you're getting married soon," she'd written, "and it's occurred to me that you might especially enjoy the weekend here, because it'll be one last chance for you to have a fling, before becoming a respectable, young, Martindale matron . . ."

The scorn with which Sue had referred to our town in all her letters, since moving to River City several years ago, had always annoyed me. But this particular remark brought a response in me that I didn't altogether understand. And so I asked my mother to please notify everybody of a change in plans, and I blithely informed Bill that our wedding would have to be postponed. He was puzzled but didn't say a word against my plan. At the station he kissed me good-by tenderly.

"Come back soon, darling," he said wistfully.

"Of course!" I laughed. "I'll only be gone two days, dear."

I said it reassuringly, but as the train pulled out, I saw his face cloud with uncertainty.

In River City, Sue and two dark-haired young men met me at the station. Sue introduced her fiancé, Henry, and the more handsome of the two, his brother, Larry.

"Well!" Larry said, as we walked to the car, speaking to Sue as he smiled at me. "I thought you'd collected a beautiful group of bridesmaids, but with *this* addition, I feel you've really outdone yourself!"

"I didn't choose my bridesmaids for their beauty," Sue laughed. "I chose them for various qualities — Laura for her youthful innocence!"

Larry gallantly helped me into the back seat. I was furious — youthful innocence was hardly the quality I imagined would appeal to this sophisticated young man. I wondered suddenly what difference it could possibly make to me, but as Larry settled himself beside me, I realized it did make a difference.

At Sue's house, I met many people, all assembled for the wedding festivities, including three other bridesmaids who were in Sue's bedroom primping for the party that night. The fifth bridesmaid, Sue said, wouldn't arrive until the next day. After introductions, the three girls resumed their conversation, and from their remarks, it was obvious that Larry had charmed all of them. Unreasonably, I felt jealous at the attention he had paid each one of them, and I was determined to give them competition. Then I thought of Bill and realized that Larry was the first man I had thought of since our early days together. Putting on my lipstick, I reprimanded myself silently. "Just keep Bill in mind," I thought, "and everything will be all right."

Downstairs, as the party progressed, I had difficulty remembering my own good advice. Larry was charming to everyone, but gradually it became obvious that he meant to monopolize my attention. As the evening wore on, each of the bridesmaids resigned herself to one of the other young men present, and Larry claimed each dance with me. As we danced, he held me closer and closer, and I could feel my heart pounding against his chest. When he turned his head to look down into my eyes, I felt my face turning red. He smiled.

"You look warm, Laura," he said, "and it is stuffy in here. Wouldn't you like a breath of cool night air?"

I was sure that he knew I was blushing, and to cover my confusion, I murmured, "Yes . . . I am warm."

Dancing me toward the French doors, Larry led the way out to the darkness of the veranda.

"Let's—turn on the light," I said, feeling suddenly nervous.

"Sorry," Larry said, coming close to me. "There is no light out here. This place is strictly for daytime use."

"It's evening now," I said idiotically. I could see his white teeth flashing as he grinned when his face came closer to mine in the darkness. His arms pulled me tightly to him, and his lips found mine. I tried desperately to think of Bill and pull out of Larry's embrace, but his arms held me close to him. His lips were insistent, and very slowly my resistance melted.

"Laura . . . darling," he whispered.

Taking a deep breath, I pushed him away from me.

"Go back inside," I said softly. "I'll be in in a moment."

"Laura," he said insistently. "This is real. Can't you feel it?"

Bill! I kept thinking. Bill!

"Good night, Larry," I said, and brushing past him, I entered the living room. After saying a few good nights, I made my way upstairs. I lay in bed with my mind a turmoil of thoughts until long after the house had become silent. As I fell asleep, I was longing to see Larry in the morning.

At the breakfast table Larry's eyes seemed on me guiltily, and I felt a thrill at his smile. But I managed to remind myself of Bill, and when Sue suggested that I might like to see the wedding presents, I agreed eagerly. There were a great many of them, and it took almost the entire morning. After luncheon Larry managed to get me alone.

"Laura," he said softly, "would you like to take a drive this afternoon? I promised Sue I'd meet the other bridesmaid's train, and it's a good excuse for us to get off alone."

I was tempted. Even to myself I couldn't deny that I was

attracted to this man. I remembered the look on Bill's face, however, as my train had pulled out of the station, and I managed to refuse, casually, just as Sue was entering the room. She was upset. The wedding was scheduled for late afternoon, and she felt certain that everything was going wrong.

"Laura," she said nervously. "Come help me with my dress. I don't think it fits."

I left the room with her, and her last-minute worries kept me occupied for the next hour. As I entered the living room and sank down on the sofa, eager for a few minutes of peace, I heard voices in the hall.

"Sue's certainly done herself proud!" I heard Larry's voice say. "The other bridesmaids are good-looking, but you're a beauty, Sandra!"

A feminine laugh and a few soft words, and then Larry's voice again. "Do you have to start getting dressed for the shindig now? The drive from the station was over entirely too soon! Couldn't we take another short drive?"

Another trill of laughter and a few coy words, and then the sound of the front door closing.

A sick feeling rose within me. I'd fallen for his line of smooth talk, just as this Sandra was doing now! I'd even—I admitted it to myself now—thought of forsaking Bill, wonderful, darling Bill, for this egotistical wolf!

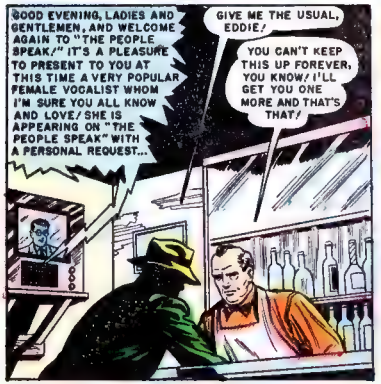
Suddenly I felt better. I felt wonderful, as if a great weight were lifted from me. I still felt wonderful throughout the wedding, and afterwards, when Sue whispered to me, "Never mind, it's *good* for a girl to know one heel before settling down with a really good guy like Henry, or like your Bill!" I kissed her cheek and wished her all the happiness in the world—and meant it. When I saw the look on Bill's face as my train pulled into the Martindale station the next day, my heart sang for joy, and I mentally thanked Sue for showing me what a prize I really had in my Bill.

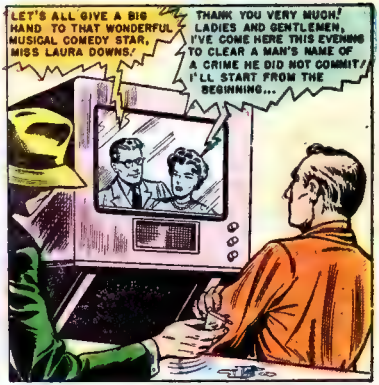
And so, with one short episode, my life changed completely. When I said, "I, Laura, take thee, William . . ." a week later, my voice never wavered and my heart was high. Having once placed my happiness in jeopardy, I now hold it closely, for it's the most precious thing in the world!

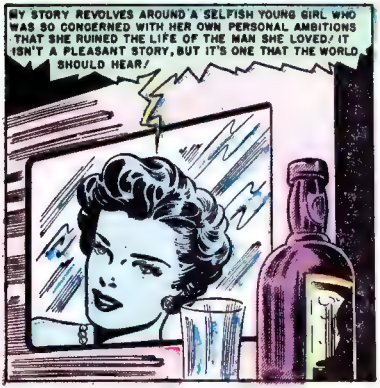
THE END

ONE BIG QUESTION IN MY LIFE HAD TO BE SOLVED: WAS I LAURA DOWNS, THE TOAST OF THE NATION, BELOVED AND ADMIRED? OR WAS I REALLY QUITE DIFFERENT? WAS I REALLY...

LAURA DOWNS, THE GIRL WITHOUT A CONSCIENCE!







HE WAS A THEATRICAL AGENT AND HAD DONE EVERYTHING POSSIBLE TO BRING MY NAME BEFORE THE PUBLIC/ I'LL NEVER FORGET THE DAY HE BURST INTO MY APARTMENT SO JOYFULLY...
LAURA,LAURA HONEY/ I'VE GOT GREAT NEWS/
WHAT IS IT, PAUL?
I'VE MANAGED TO GRAB YOU AN AUDITION WITH ERNIE ZELLMAN FOR HIS NEW MUSICAL/ YOU HAVE AN APPOINTMENT TO SEE HIM TOMORROW MORNING AT 10:30/
THAT'S WONDERFUL, PAUL...BUT I JUST HAVEN'T A THING TO WEAR/
HERE'S FIFTY BUCKS/ I'M NOT EXACTLY A RICH MAN,BUT I THINK IT'S WORTH A GAMBLE, DON'T YOU?
UNDER ANY OTHER CIRCUMSTANCES I'D REFUSE/ BUT... WELL... ALL I CAN DO IS THANK YOU/
THE FOLLOWING MORNING, I WAS MY USUAL NERVOUS SELF... AS I PREPARED FOR MY ACT, PAUL MANAGED TO PUT IN A FEW GOOD WORDS FOR ME WITH THE PRODUCER...
I TELL YOU,ERNIE, YOU'VE NEVER HEARD ANYTHING LIKE THIS GAL'S VOICE/
IF SHE'S HALF WHAT YOU SAY SHE IS, I'LL BE VERY SURPRISED/
THE MOMENT I STEPPED ON THE STAGE, THE MUSIC SEEMED TO FLOW FROM WITHIN ME...
LOVE IN MY HEART,DARLING, JUST FOR YOU/
HE'S SMILING/ SHE'S IN/
YOU'RE MARVELOUS/ GOOD HEAVENS,WOMAN, I'VE BEEN SEARCHING FOR SOMEONE LIKE YOU FOR TWELVE YEARS, AND I HOPE YOU AND YOUR AGENT HAVEN'T ANY PLANS FOR LUNCH...WE HAVE A GREAT MANY THINGS TO TALK OVER/
THANK YOU VERY MUCH, MR. ZELLMAN/
WE'LL GO ON THE ROAD FOR A FEW WEEKS WITH THE SHOW... HAVE A REWRITE JOB DONE ON THE SCRIPT... AND OPEN ON BROADWAY SOMETIME WITHIN EIGHT WEEKS/
WHAT I'M INTERESTED IN,THOUGH,IS LAURA'S FUTURE/
OH, MR. ZELLMAN, I CAN HARDLY BELIEVE MY GOOD LUCK/
WELL,IF SHE STUDIES HARD AND BECOMES FAMILIAR WITH HER LINES, I SEE NO REASON WHY I CAN'T PUT HER RIGHT IN THE SPOT/ COME TO MY OFFICE IN THE MORNING AND WE'LL SIGN HER UP/
FINE/
THIS HAS HAPPENED SO FAST, I DON'T KNOW QUITE WHAT TO SAY/

FOR THE NEXT FEW DAYS PAUL WAS WITH ME CONSTANTLY, TEACHING ME HOW TO PUT OVER THE LINES IN THE SHOW/ AT TIMES I WANTED TO GIVE THE WHOLE THING UP BUT PAUL MADE ME GO ON...

NO, NO, LAURA/ GIVE IT SOME FEELING/

I'LL TRY IT AGAIN/ JUST BE PATIENT WITH ME, DEAR/

EVERYTHING CLICKED PERFECTLY AT THE PREVIEW IN BALTIMORE/ FINALLY WE OPENED IN NEW YORK!

ISN'T LAURA DOWNS SENSATIONAL!

ZELLMAN'S GOT ANOTHER HIT/

I'M GOING TO DEVOTE MY WHOLE COLUMN TO LAURA DOWNS AND TELL THE WORLD JUST HOW GOOD SHE IS/

LOVE AT LAST

LOVE AT LAST

THE CRITICS WERE WONDERFUL TO US/ I FOUND MYSELF THE TOAST OF THE TOWN/ WHEN WE'D BEEN ON BROADWAY SIX MONTHS, THE PAPERS STILL RAVED...

DRAMA DESK

by JOE FOLL

I Don't know about the rest of Little old New York, but I saw "LOVE AT LAST" for the FIFTH time last night and it is WELL Power packed! Laura Downs remains as fresh as ever since the show opened seven months ago.

and same Curtis.

KAITLES KORNER

The Wellington Theatre Guild's push in the crowds as Laura Downs overpowers the world of entertainment with her dynamic and captivating manner. Re- said out for the

THE SHOW WAS SUCH A WONDERFUL SUCCESS THAT MR. ZELLMAN DECIDED TO SEND ROAD COMPANIES THROUGHOUT THE COUNTRY/ HE WITHDREW ME FROM THE BROADWAY SHOW AND BILLED ME FOR CHICAGO, WHERE THE CROWDS EAGERLY AWAITED "LOVE AT LAST"/ ON THE DAY BEFORE I LEFT, PAUL AND I GOT INTO A RATHER SILLY ARGUMENT...

LAURA/ WHY ALL THE PACKING? DON'T TELL ME YOU'RE GOING TO LEAVE THE SHOW NOW/

MR. ZELLMAN HAS PLACED ME WITH THE COMPANY OPENING IN CHICAGO/ I'M TO LEAVE TOMORROW/ IF YOU PAID A LITTLE MORE ATTENTION TO YOUR CLIENTS, YOU'D KNOW THESE THINGS/

WELL, I DO HAVE TO MAKE A LIVING... REMEMBER? I DON'T MIND SAYING IT'S NO FUN SPONGING OFF ONE CLIENT/ NOW, WHAT ABOUT OUR DATE THIS EVENING? IT'S FRIDAY NIGHT, YOU KNOW/

OH PAUL, DON'T BE SO MELODRAMATIC/ AND YOU KNOW WE'VE BOTH BEEN INVITED TO MR. ZELLMAN'S FAREWELL PARTY FOR THE NEW YORK CAST OF THE SHOW/

WHAT, AGAIN? WE USED TO HAVE SUCH FUN, LAURA, JUST GOING DOWN FOR SPAGHETTI/

FRANKLY, PAUL, I'M SICK OF EATING IN THOSE SLOP HOUSES/ MR. ZELLMAN IS RESPONSIBLE FOR OUR SUCCESS AND THE LEAST WE CAN DO IS GO TO HIS PARTY/ I'LL MEET YOU THERE/

SO/ YOU'RE GOING TO LEAVE ME LIKE AN OLD SHOE, HUH? NOW THAT YOU'VE GOTTEN EVERYTHING YOU WANTED/ WELL, I'LL SHOW UP AT THAT PARTY OF ZELLMAN'S--BUT AFTER THAT WE'RE FINISHED/ GOOD-BYE/

GOOD-BYE/ AND YOU DON'T NEED TO SHOW UP AT THE PARTY/ NOBODY IS FORCING YOU/

IF I HAD ONLY KNOWN THEN WHAT THAT ARGUMENT WAS TO LEAD TO, PERHAPS THE HORRIBLE THING THAT WAS TO HAPPEN COULD HAVE BEEN AVOIDED/ I ARRIVED AT THE PARTY AND TRIED TO MAKE MYSELF FORGET ABOUT PAUL, BUT I REALLY HOPED THAT HE WOULD BE THERE...

MISS DOWNS/ NEVER IN THE HISTORY OF THE THEATRE HAVE I BEEN SO UTTERLY CAPTIVATED BY AN ACTRESS'S CHARM/

BELIEVE ME, MR. WALTERS ISN'T EXAGGERATING, MISS DOWNS/

GENTLEMEN, GENTLEMEN/ PLEASE...THIS IS TOO MUCH PRAISE/

OH, MR. WALTERS, YOU'RE SO CHARMING/ ...I'VE BEEN SURROUNDED BY SO MANY BOORS THAT WHEN I'M AMONG REAL GENTLEMEN, I'M SIMPLY LOST.'
I SUPPOSE WE ALL HAVE TO EXPERIENCE A CERTAIN AMOUNT OF THAT, MISS DOWNS.'
LAURA.'
COME ON, LAURA. I THINK WE'D BETTER BE LEAVING--THESE GLAMOR BOYS HAVE ALREADY STUFFED YOU WITH TOO MUCH CHAMPAGNE.'
JUST BECAUSE YOU'RE MY AGENT DOESN'T MEAN YOU CAN ORDER ME AROUND.' KINDLY LEAVE ME ALONE.'
YOU HEARD HER, ANDREWS.'
LAURA'S LEAVING WITH ME.' STEP ASIDE.'
WE'LL SEE ABOUT THAT.'
THE GALLANT KNIGHT IN ARMOR, EH? I'VE JUST BEEN WAITING FOR SOMETHING LIKE THIS.' YOU ASKED FOR IT.'
I'M GOING TO DRIVE LAURA HOME MYSELF, WITHOUT ANY ASSISTANCE FROM YOU BOYS.'
STOP, PAUL.' STOP.'
HOW COULD YOU MAKE SUCH A SCENE.' YOU EMBARRASSED ME HORRIBLY.'
IF YOU WANT TO GO BACK TO THE THE PARTY--YOU CAN.' YOU CALL ALL THE SIGNALS FROM HERE ON IN.'
NO? WELL...HOP IN AND I'LL DRIVE YOU HOME.'
OH, NO YOU WON'T.' THIS HAPPENS TO BE MY CAR AND AS LONG AS I OWN IT, I PREFER TO DRIVE MYSELF.' YOU'VE BEEN TOO DOMINEERING, BUT YOU'RE NOT GOING TO TAKE MY POSSESSIONS, TOO.'
YOU'VE BEEN DRINKING, LAURA.' YOU CAN'T DRIVE.' NOW GIVE ME THE KEYS AND LET ME TAKE YOU HOME.'
NO.' I'M SICK OF DOING THINGS YOU WANT AND FOR ONCE I'M GOING TO HOLD OUT...EITHER I DRIVE OR WE STAY HERE ALL NIGHT AND ARGUE.' NOW WHICH IS IT?
4

ALL RIGHT, THEN--BE STUBBORN! BUT IF YOU GO OVER TWENTY-FIVE MILES AN HOUR, I'LL SLAM ON THE BRAKES AND SPANK YOU! NOW DRIVE CAREFULLY!
OH, HOW DECENT OF YOU, MR. ANDREWS! YOU'RE ACTUALLY GOING TO LET ME DRIVE MY OWN CAR! THANKS A MILLION!
I DON'T KNOW HOW LONG I'D BEEN DRIVING ...PERHAPS IT WAS ONLY A MINUTE OR TWO, THE LAST THING I REMEMBERED WAS...
LAURA! THAT MAN! LOOK OUT!
OH PAUL, PAUL, I HIT HIM! I HIT THAT TRAMP BACK THERE! DO YOU THINK... DO YOU THINK HE'S DEAD?
I DON'T KNOW, HONEY! YOU HOP OUT AND GRAB A CAB! I'LL GO BACK AND SEE IF HE'S ALL RIGHT!
PAUL! LET'S JUST DRIVE ON AND FORGET IT! HE WAS ONLY A POOR BUM, AND NOBODY WILL KNOW THE DIFFERENCE!
YOU MUST BE MAD! WHY, THAT MAN MIGHT BE DYING! NOW DON'T ARGUE... AND DO JUST AS I SAY!
YOU TAKE A CAB AND GO DIRECTLY HOME, AND DON'T MENTION A THING ABOUT THIS TO ANYONE! I'LL CONTACT YOU LATER THIS EVENING! NOW DON'T BE UPSET--EVERYTHING WILL BE ALL RIGHT!
ALL RIGHT, PAUL! BUT BE CAREFUL!
THANK HEAVENS! HELP HAS ARRIVED! I MUST REPORT IT, BUT... LAURA'S NAME WOULD BE RUINED IF IT EVER GOT OUT THAT SHE WAS DRIVING!
ALL RIGHT THERE, BUDDY! PUT ON THE BRAKES!
THAT'S THE CAR, OFFICER! I'M SURE OF IT!
HUH??

THIS BEAST HIT THAT POOR MAN AND DROVE RIGHT OFF, AROUND THE CORNER! THANK GOODNESS I REMEMBERED THE LICENSE PLATE NUMBER!
OH, A HIT-AND-RUN DRIVER! WELL, WE'LL JUST TAKE YOU DOWN TO THE STATION AND BOOK YOU RIGHT NOW!
BUT, OFFICER...

I HEARD NOTHING FROM PAUL BUT THE NEWSPAPERS WERE FULL OF THE INCIDENT! IT TOOK NEARLY TEN DAYS FOR HIS CASE TO COME UP--I COULDN'T HELP BUT GO...
IT'S LUCKY FOR YOU YOUR VICTIM RECOVERED! I REGRET I CAN ONLY SENTENCE YOU TO FROM SIX MONTHS TO A YEAR IN THE STATE PRISON!

I'VE GOT TO TELL THE TRUTH... I'VE GOT TO! THIS ISN'T RIGHT! IT ISN'T FAIR...BUT THEN AGAIN, PERHAPS IT IS! AFTER ALL, PAUL HASN'T AS MUCH TO LOSE AS I HAVE...

SIX MONTHS IS NOTHING ANYWAY! PAUL WILL COME BACK NONE THE WORSE FOR WEAR! WHY SHOULD I RISK MY ENTIRE FUTURE FOR THE TRUTH!

I WENT ON TOUR AS SCHEDULED, EVEN THOUGH I WAS LATE IN GETTING STARTED! AFTER CHICAGO I WENT TO BALTIMORE AND THEN TO WASHINGTON! MY SUCCESS AND POPULARITY GREW!

SOON HOLLYWOOD BECKONED... ACTING IN THE MOVIES CAME EASILY TO ME! ...I SOON BECAME AN ESTABLISHED STAR OF BOTH STAGE AND SCREEN...

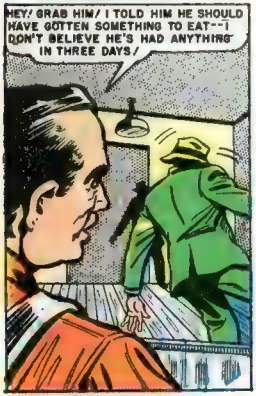
I HAD EVERYTHING A GIRL COULD POSSIBLY WISH FOR--WITH ONE EXCEPTION! PEACE OF MIND! I HATED TO SHUT MY EYES FOR I COULD THINK OF NOTHING BUT PAUL...BUT WHEN HIS PRISON TERM WAS OVER, HE DISAPPEARED COMPLETELY!
AN INNOCENT MAN SERVED A PRISON TERM--FOR YOU!
HAVE YOU NO CONSCIENCE? HAVE YOU NO SOUL?!!

FINALLY I COULD BEAR IT NO LONGER! I KNEW THAT I WAS SLIPPING, AND WHEN ERNIE ZELLMAN ARRIVED FROM NEW YORK TO SEE ME I HAD MADE UP MY MIND...
LAURA! WHAT'S THIS ALL ABOUT? THE DIRECTOR TELLS ME YOU'RE NOT SHOOTING UP TO PAR! IS ANYTHING WRONG?
MY WHOLE EXISTENCE IS WRONG--I'M NOTHING... BUT A CHEAP FUGITIVE, ERNIE! I'M FLYING BACK TO NEW YORK TODAY!

AND THAT, LADIES AND GENTLEMEN, IS WHY I'M HERE THIS EVENING/ I'M MAKING A DESPERATE PLEA FOR PAUL ANDREWS/ I'VE DONE A WRONG THING AND MY ONLY HOPE FOR A PEACEFUL LIFE IS TO CONFESS, AS I'VE DONE THIS EVENING/ IF YOU'RE LISTENING, PAUL...

...PLEASE, PLEASE CONTACT ME/ WHEREVER YOU ARE, WHATEVER YOU'RE DOING, PLEASE CALL THIS STATION AT ONCE/ IF ANY OF YOU GOOD PEOPLE KNOW OF HIS WHEREABOUTS, PLEASE CONTACT ME/ THANK YOU ALL VERY MUCH/

LADIES AND GENTLEMEN, YOU HAVE JUST HEARD "THE PEOPLE SPEAK/" NEXT WEEK...
THAT WAS A BRAVE THING THAT YOUNG LADY JUST DID/ IT CERTAINLY TOOK A LOT OF NERVE TO GET UP IN FRONT OF A MILLION PEOPLE AND CONFESS WHAT SHE DID/
YES, IT...

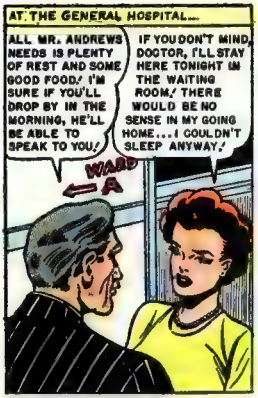

HEY/ GRAB HIM/ I TOLD HIM HE SHOULD HAVE GOTTEN SOMETHING TO EAT--I DON'T BELIEVE HE'S HAD ANYTHING IN THREE DAYS/

THE POOR GUY/ GEE, IT MUST BE TOUGH TO RUN OUT OF MONEY/
LET'S CHECK HIS WALLET/ PERHAPS WE'LL FIND HIS ADDRESS/

GOOD GOSH/ IT'S PAUL ANDREWS/
THAT'S THE NAME OF THE MAN LAURA DOWNS WAS JUST TALKING ABOUT/
SOMEONE BETTER CALL THAT RADIO STATION RIGHT AWAY/

THAT'S RIGHT, OPERATOR... CALL THE GENERAL HOSPITAL AND HAVE THEM SEND AN AMBULANCE DOWN HERE RIGHT AWAY/ AND THEN WILL YOU PLEASE GET ME STATION WOZG/ IT'S VERY URGENT, SO PLEASE RUSH IT THROUGH/

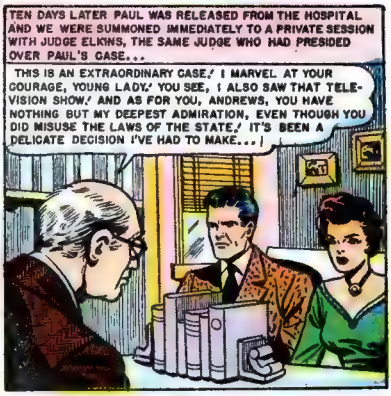
THAT'S RIGHT, MISS DOWNS/ HE'S OKAY... JUST A LITTLE UNDER-NOURISHED/ I'M GLAD I COULD BE OF SOME SERVICE TO YOU/ YOU'RE A BRAVE WOMAN/
I DON'T KNOW HOW TO THANK YOU... YOU'LL NEVER KNOW HOW MUCH THIS MEANS TO ME/ I'LL GO TO THE HOSPITAL IMMEDIATELY/


AT THE GENERAL HOSPITAL...
ALL MR. ANDREWS NEEDS IS PLENTY OF REST AND SOME GOOD FOOD, I'M SURE IF YOU'LL DROP BY IN THE MORNING, HE'LL BE ABLE TO SPEAK TO YOU.
IF YOU DON'T MIND DOCTOR, I'LL STAY HERE TONIGHT IN THE WAITING ROOM. THERE WOULD BE NO SENSE IN MY GOING HOME... I COULDN'T SLEEP ANYWAY.
WARD A

AS SOON AS PAUL AWOKE THE FOLLOWING MORNING, I WAS PERMITTED TO SEE HIM.
PAUL, IF ONLY YOU KNEW HOW MUCH I'VE PAID FOR WHAT I DID. WHY DIDN'T YOU COME BACK TO ME?
I JUST COULDN'T FACE YOU, LAURA. I THOUGHT, SINCE YOU WERE A BIG SUCCESS, YOU WOULDN'T WANT ANY PART OF ME.

OH, PAUL, YOU'RE WRONG... SO WRONG! I TRIED TO FORGET. I EVEN PRETENDED I HAD. BUT IT WAS USELESS. I GUESS I'M JUST IN LOVE WITH YOU.
MY DEAREST, WHAT IS IN THE PAST IS DEAD AND BURIED... AND I LOVE YOU, TOO.

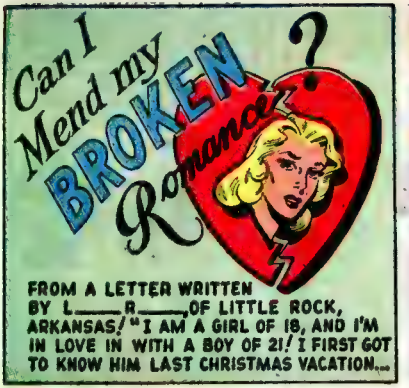
TOGETHER WE CAN TRY TO FORGET IT. I THINK IT'S WORTH A TRY, DON'T YOU?
OF COURSE IT IS, DARLING. I GUESS YOU AND I HAVE ALWAYS LOVED ONE ANOTHER.
MISS DOWNS, I THINK YOU'D BETTER LEAVE NOW! MR. ANDREWS STILL NEEDS HIS REST.


TEN DAYS LATER PAUL WAS RELEASED FROM THE HOSPITAL AND WE WERE SUMMONED IMMEDIATELY TO A PRIVATE SESSION WITH JUDGE ELKINS, THE SAME JUDGE WHO HAD PRESIDED OVER PAUL'S CASE...
THIS IS AN EXTRAORDINARY CASE. I MARVEL AT YOUR COURAGE, YOUNG LADY. YOU SEE, I ALSO SAW THAT TELEVISION SHOW. AND AS FOR YOU, ANDREWS, YOU HAVE NOTHING BUT MY DEEPEST ADMIRATION, EVEN THOUGH YOU DID MISUSE THE LAWS OF THE STATE. IT'S BEEN A DELICATE DECISION I'VE HAD TO MAKE...

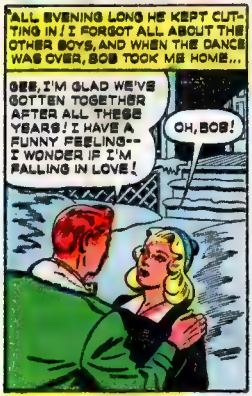
BUT AS LONG AS THE AWFUL CRIME COMMITTED HAS BEEN PAID FOR, I'VE DECIDED TO PLACE MISS DOWNS IN YOUR CUSTODY ON PROBATION FOR ONE YEAR, MR. ANDREWS.
THANKS A MILLION, JUDGE ELKINS. I REALIZE HOW SERIOUS THIS WHOLE SITUATION HAS BEEN AND YOUR KINDNESS IS SINCERELY APPRECIATED.
OH, JUDGE ELKINS...

AND SO THE EVENTS OF THOSE DREADFUL MONTHS MERGED INTO THE PAST, AND BECAME BUT A DIM MEMORY...
SAY, LAURA, HOW ABOUT A LITTLE SUMMER STOCK THIS SEASON, JUST TO KEEP YOURSELF IN SHAPE?
I'M AFRAID YOU'LL HAVE TO TALK TO MY AGENT, ERNIE. HE'S RIGHT OVER THERE.

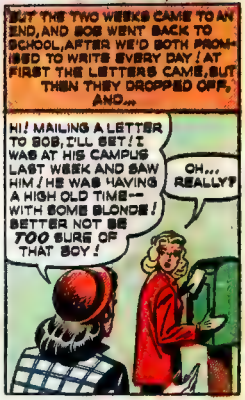
SORRY, ERNIE, LAURA'S GONNA BE BUSY FOR A WHILE... ON OUR HONEYMOON!
THE END

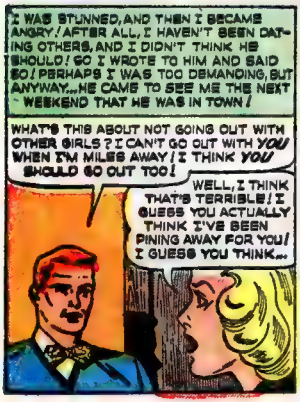

Can I Mend my BROKEN Romance?
FROM A LETTER WRITTEN BY L____R____, OF LITTLE ROCK, ARKANSAS! "I AM A GIRL OF 18, AND I'M IN LOVE IN WITH A BOY OF 21! I FIRST GOT TO KNOW HIM LAST CHRISTMAS VACATION...

WE FELL IN LOVE RIGHT AWAY--AT LEAST I DID! BOB WAS HOME FROM COLLEGE FOR VACATION AND CAME TO ONE OF OUR HIGH SCHOOL DANCES...
MAY I CUT IN? I'M BOB GREY!
OH, I REMEMBER YOU! YOU WERE A SENIOR WHEN I WAS IN THE TENTH GRADE! I USED TO WATCH YOU PLAY FOOTBALL IN GRADE SCHOOL!


ALL EVENING LONG HE KEPT CUTTING IN! I FORGOT ALL ABOUT THE OTHER BOYS, AND WHEN THE DANCE WAS OVER, BOB TOOK ME HOME...
GEE, I'M GLAD WE'VE GOTTEN TOGETHER AFTER ALL THESE YEARS! I HAVE A FUNNY FEELING--I WONDER IF I'M FALLING IN LOVE!
OH, BOB!

THE NEXT DAY HE CALLED AND ASKED ME TO GO OUT WITH HIM! WE SPENT EVERY DAY OF VACATION TOGETHER, AND I'VE NEVER HAD SO MUCH FUN WITH ANYONE...
OOH! THIS IS SCARY!
PUT YOUR ARMS AROUND MY NECK, BABY, AND HANG ON TIGHT!


BUT THE TWO WEEKS CAME TO AN END, AND BOB WENT BACK TO SCHOOL, AFTER WE'D BOTH PROMISED TO WRITE EVERY DAY! AT FIRST THE LETTERS CAME, BUT THEN THEY DROPPED OFF, AND...
HI! MAILING A LETTER TO BOB, I'LL BET! I WAS AT HIS CAMPUS LAST WEEK AND SAW HIM! HE WAS HAVING A HIGH OLD TIME--WITH SOME BLONDE! BETTER NOT BE TOO SURE OF THAT BOY!
OH... REALLY?

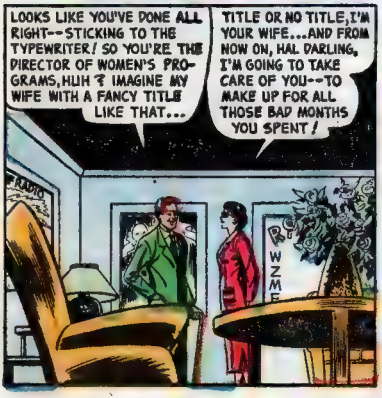

I WAS STUNNED, AND THEN I BECAME ANGRY! AFTER ALL, I HAVEN'T BEEN DATING OTHERS, AND I DIDN'T THINK HE SHOULD! SO I WROTE TO HIM AND SAID SO! PERHAPS I WAS TOO DEMANDING, BUT ANYWAY...HE CAME TO SEE ME THE NEXT WEEKEND THAT HE WAS IN TOWN!
WHAT'S THIS ABOUT NOT GOING OUT WITH OTHER GIRLS? I CAN'T GO OUT WITH YOU WHEN I'M MILES AWAY! I THINK YOU SHOULD GO OUT TOO!
WELL, I THINK THAT'S TERRIBLE! I GUESS YOU ACTUALLY THINK I'VE BEEN PINING AWAY FOR YOU! I GUESS YOU THINK...

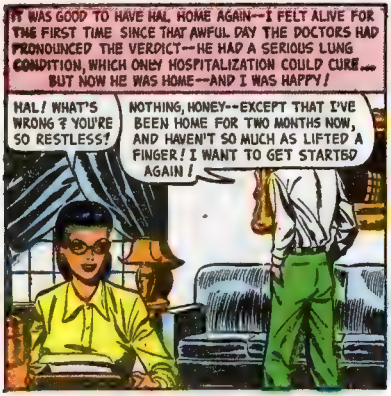
OH, WHAT'S THE USE! I THOUGHT IT WAS GOING TO BE FUN SEEING YOU, BUT I COULD HAVE MORE FUN AT A FUNERAL! GOOD-BYE!
BUT, BOB...! WAIT!
HE WENT OUT AND SLAMMED THE DOOR AND HE HASN'T COME TO SEE ME, OR PHONED SINCE THEN! MY GIRL FRIEND SAYS I MIGHT AS WELL FORGET HIM, BUT I CAN'T!"
NOW, WHAT I WANT TO KNOW IS--DO YOU THINK I CAN MEND MY BROKEN ROMANCE?
WHAT DO YOU THINK? DOES E____R____ HAVE A CHANCE WITH BOB? OR SHOULD SHE PUT HIM OUT OF HER MIND? SEND YOUR IDEAS TO:
MY OWN ROMANCE
SUITE 1404
350 5TH AVENUE
NEW YORK, 1, N.Y.

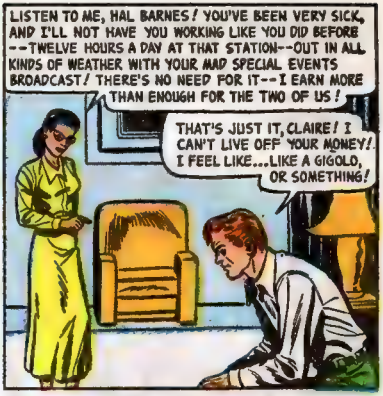
WOULDN'T YOU THINK IT WOULD BE WONDERFUL FOR A GIRL TO "KNOW ALL THE ANSWERS"? I THOUGHT I KNEW 'EM ALL...BUT IT WASN'T WONDERFUL...IT CAUSED HEARTBREAK AND MISERY!

THE MISTAKE OF CLAIRE BARNES!

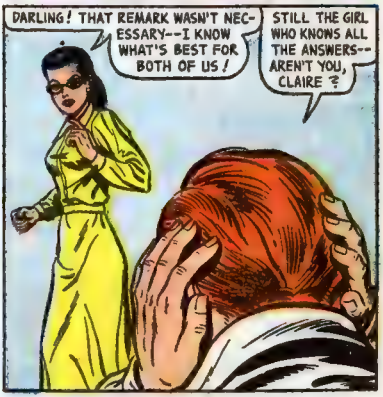
5748




IT WAS GOOD TO HAVE HAL HOME AGAIN--I FELT ALIVE FOR THE FIRST TIME SINCE THAT AWFUL DAY THE DOCTORS HAD PRONOUNCED THE VERDICT--HE HAD A SERIOUS LUNG CONDITION, WHICH ONLY HOSPITALIZATION COULD CURE... BUT NOW HE WAS HOME--AND I WAS HAPPY!
HAL! WHAT'S WRONG? YOU'RE SO RESTLESS!
NOTHING, HONEY--EXCEPT THAT I'VE BEEN HOME FOR TWO MONTHS NOW, AND HAVEN'T SO MUCH AS LIFTED A FINGER! I WANT TO GET STARTED AGAIN!


LISTEN TO ME, HAL BARNES! YOU'VE BEEN VERY SICK, AND I'LL NOT HAVE YOU WORKING LIKE YOU DID BEFORE --TWELVE HOURS A DAY AT THAT STATION--OUT IN ALL KINDS OF WEATHER WITH YOUR MAD SPECIAL EVENTS BROADCAST! THERE'S NO NEED FOR IT--I EARN MORE THAN ENOUGH FOR THE TWO OF US!
THAT'S JUST IT, CLAIRE! I CAN'T LIVE OFF YOUR MONEY! I FEEL LIKE...LIKE A GIGOLO, OR SOMETHING!

I DON'T WANT TO HEAR THAT KIND OF TALK, HAL! AFTER ALL, WHAT'S THE DIFFERENCE WHO MAKES THE MONEY? YOU REST--WHEN YOU'RE REALLY ON YOUR FEET AGAIN, I'LL SWING SOMETHING FOR YOU AT THE STATION!
GREAT! I'LL HAVE TO DEPEND ON YOU FOR... MISTER CLAIRE BARNES, THEY'LL CALL ME!

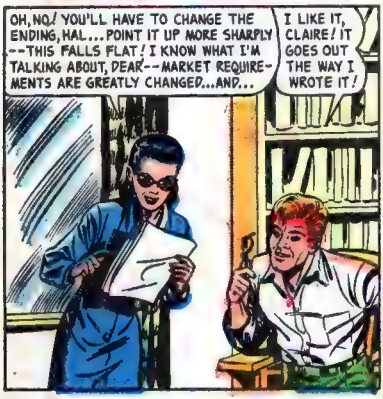

DARLING! THAT REMARK WASN'T NECESSARY--I KNOW WHAT'S BEST FOR BOTH OF US!
STILL THE GIRL WHO KNOWS ALL THE ANSWERS--AREN'T YOU, CLAIRE?

I HAVE TO KNOW ALL THE ANSWERS, HAL...OR I COULDN'T HOLD MY JOB! I WORKED MY WAY UP IN RADIO, DARLING, JUST BECAUSE I DO KNOW ALL THE ANSWERS! BELIEVE ME WHEN I TELL YOU I ONLY WANT WHAT'S BEST FOR YOU!
YOUR INTENTIONS ARE GOOD, CLAIRE...BUT THE ROAD TO DESTRUCTION IS PAVED WITH GOOD INTENTIONS! I MUST FIND MY OWN WAY OUT! YOU KNOW--I THINK I'LL TAKE A CRACK AT ARTICLE WRITING--I USED TO SELL 'EM IN THE OLD DAYS!

GREAT IDEA! YOU'LL BE ABLE TO WORK AT HOME, AND I'LL HELP YOU OVER THE ROUGH SPOTS--I KNOW A LOT OF EDITORS!
CLAIRE DARLING...I'M GOING TO WRITE THE ARTICLES... AND I'LL SELL THEM! OKAY? LET'S MAKE BELIEVE I'M STARTING FROM SCRATCH ON MY OWN--SHALL WE?

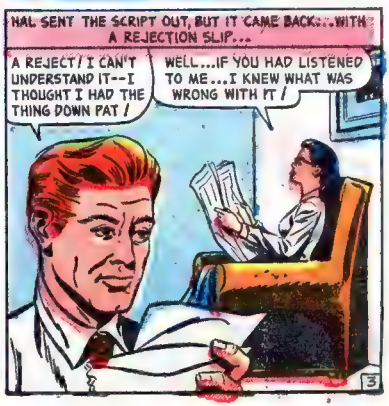
FOR THE NEXT WEEK OR SO, HAL KEPT BUSILY AT THE ARTICLE HE WAS WRITING...I WAS GLAD TO SEE HIM AT WORK! WE WERE BOTH VERY HAPPY...BUT...
HELLO, HAL DEAR! HOW'S THE ARTICLE GOING ?
FINISHED!

MIND IF I LOOK IT OVER ? MAYBE I CAN GIVE YOU A FEW HELPFUL HINTS !
MAYBE! HERE...


OH, NO! YOU'LL HAVE TO CHANGE THE ENDING, HAL...POINT IT UP MORE SHARPLY --THIS FALLS FLAT! I KNOW WHAT I'M TALKING ABOUT, DEAR--MARKET REQUIREMENTS ARE GREATLY CHANGED...AND...
I LIKE IT, CLAIRE! IT GOES OUT THE WAY I WROTE IT!

HAL! YOU'RE POSITIVELY RUDE! I ONLY MEANT...
YES--YOU ONLY MEANT IT FOR MY OWN GOOD! WELL, FORGET MY GOOD FOR A WHILE! IT'S MY ARTICLE...I WROTE IT! LET'S LEAVE IT AT THAT...

ALL RIGHT, HAL-- HAVE IT YOUR WAY!
YOU BET! I'LL STAND OR FALL ON MY OWN EFFORTS!


HAL SENT THE SCRIPT OUT, BUT IT CAME BACK...WITH A REJECTION SLIP...
A REJECT! I CAN'T UNDERSTAND IT--I THOUGHT I HAD THE THING DOWN PAT!
WELL...IF YOU HAD LISTENED TO ME...I KNEW WHAT WAS WRONG WITH IT!
3

HAL! WHERE ARE YOU GOING?
FOR A WALK! I'D BETTER LEAVE BEFORE I SAY SOMETHING THAT I'LL REGRET!

A MOMENT LATER HE WAS GONE! I STARED AT THE DOOR, UNBELIEVINGLY...
WHY DID HE DO THAT? WHAT HAVE I DONE TO MAKE HIM SO ANGRY?
SLAM

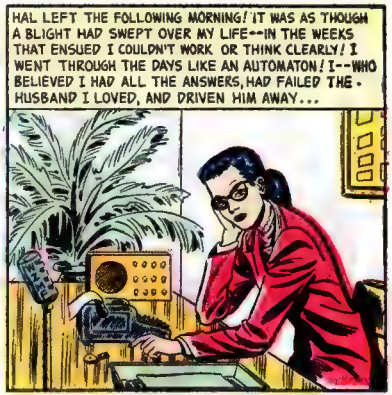
I WAITED FOR HAL...IT WAS HOURS...AND I MUST HAVE FALLEN ASLEEP ON THE SOFA...FOR THE NEXT THING I KNEW, HE WAS IN THE ROOM!
HAL--IS THAT YOU?
YES, CLAIRE--I'VE SOMETHING TO SAY--AND YOU'LL LISTEN!

I MADE A COUPLE OF LONG DISTANCE PHONE CALLS, CLAIRE--CALLED A FEW OUT-OF-TOWN RADIO STATIONS...I LANDED A JOB WITH KSR!
KSR? WHY, THAT'S IN ASHTON!. IT'S JUST A DINKY LITTLE SENDER --THERE'S NOTHING FOR YOU IN THAT SET-UP!

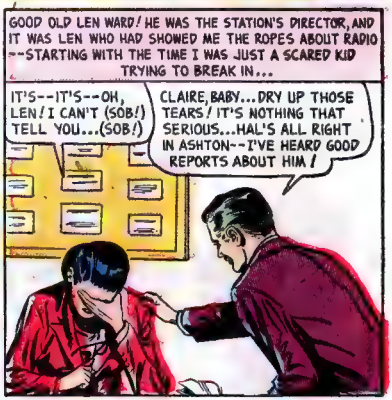
THEY THINK THEY CAN USE ME AS A NEWSCASTER! I'M GOING, CLAIRE! AT LEAST, UP THERE, I WON'T BE THE FIFTH WHEEL ON A WAGON--I'LL BE CARRYING MY OWN WEIGHT! DON'T YOU UNDERSTAND?
I KNOW, HAL ...BUT... THERE'S REALLY NO REASON... WHY, IF YOU ASK ME...

THIS IS ANOTHER TIME I'M NOT ASKING YOU! IF I FLOP, IT'S JUST LIKE WITH THE ARTICLE--AT LEAST I MADE MY OWN MISTAKES!
HAL! HAL DARLING--YOU'RE WRONG! I DON'T WANT TO TELL YOU WHAT TO DO--IT'S JUST THAT I HAVE ALL THE ANSWERS! YOU'VE BEEN AWAY SO LONG...I ONLY WANT TO HELP!

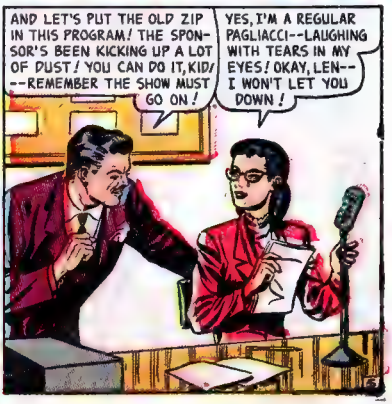
HA! HA! HA! YOU KNOW ALL THE ANSWERS, HUH? WELL...ANSWER THIS ONE! I'M GOING TO ASHTON ...AND I'M NOT COMING BACK UNTIL I MAKE GOOD ON MY OWN...NOT BY RIDING ON YOUR REPUTATION!
BUT, HAL...IT'S NOT LIKE THAT AT ALL-- I WANT TO MAKE THINGS EASY FOR YOU!


HAL LEFT THE FOLLOWING MORNING! IT WAS AS THOUGH A BLIGHT HAD SWEPT OVER MY LIFE--IN THE WEEKS THAT ENSUED I COULDN'T WORK OR THINK CLEARLY! I WENT THROUGH THE DAYS LIKE AN AUTOMATON! I--WHO BELIEVED I HAD ALL THE ANSWERS, HAD FAILED THE HUSBAND I LOVED, AND DRIVEN HIM AWAY...

HELLO, LEN!
CLAIRE, SOMETHING'S NOT RIGHT! YOU'RE WAY OFF THE BEAM! LISTEN, CLAIRE...YOU'LL HAVE TO PULL YOURSELF TOGETHER! WHAT'S TROUBLING YOU? AFTER ALL, I'M ONLY THE PROGRAM DIRECTOR FOR THE WHOLE STATION --I DON'T HAVE TO WORRY ABOUT THE STUFF THAT GOES ON THE AIR--NOT MUCH!
RADIO
SHOW
AT
WZMF


GOOD OLD LEN WARD! HE WAS THE STATION'S DIRECTOR, AND IT WAS LEN WHO HAD SHOWED ME THE ROPES ABOUT RADIO --STARTING WITH THE TIME I WAS JUST A SCARED KID TRYING TO BREAK IN...
IT'S--IT'S--OH, LEN! I CAN'T (SOB!) TELL YOU...(SOB!)
CLAIRE, BABY...DRY UP THOSE TEARS! IT'S NOTHING THAT SERIOUS...HAL'S ALL RIGHT IN ASHTON--I'VE HEARD GOOD REPORTS ABOUT HIM!

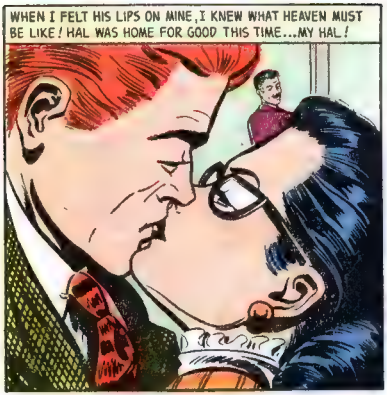
THAT'S MORE THAN I'VE HEARD! HE HASN'T BEEN IN TOUCH WITH ME SINCE HE LEFT!
HMMM...THIS LOOKS SERIOUS! WELL, PULL YOURSELF TOGETHER, KID...YOU'RE ON THE AIR IN FIFTEEN MINUTES!


AND LET'S PUT THE OLD ZIP IN THIS PROGRAM! THE SPONSOR'S BEEN KICKING UP A LOT OF DUST! YOU CAN DO IT, KID! --REMEMBER THE SHOW MUST GO ON!
YES, I'M A REGULAR PAGLIACCI--LAUGHING WITH TEARS IN MY EYES! OKAY, LEN-- I WON'T LET YOU DOWN!

THEN...SOME DAYS LATER, I WALKED INTO MY OFFICE! LEN WAS THERE! I FELT TIRED--DRAINED--THE STRAIN OF GETTING OUT THE PROGRAM WAS TELLING ON ME...
GOOD MORNING, CLAIRE!
HI, LEN...IT'S BAD NEWS, HUH? I CAN TELL BY THE EXPRESSION ON YOUR FACE!
RADIO WZMF
WELL, CLAIRE...THE VERDICT IS THAT YOU'LL HAVE TO PUT A NEW GIMMICK IN THE PROGRAM! SOUP IT UP!
I'M SORRY, LEN...I WRACKED MY BRAIN! I'M AFRAID THAT I'M WASHED UP...NOT AN IDEA IN A CARLOAD!
BABY, THAT'S NOT MY GIRL TALKING! YOU'RE THE KID WITH ALL THE ANSWERS--AND HERE YOU FOLD UP LIKE AN ACCORDION! WHERE'S THE FIGHT?
GONE, LEN, AND I DON'T KNOW ALL THE ANSWERS--NOT EVEN SOME OF THEM! I'M LICKED! BETTER GET YOURSELF A NEW GENIUS--I DON'T KNOW WHAT TO DO ABOUT THE PROGRAM! IT'S FLAT, AND I CAN'T SPICE IT UP!
LISTEN, HONEY...YOU MIGHT NOT KNOW THE ANSWER...BUT I DO! I'LL GET YOUR PROGRAM THE HIGHEST HOOPER RATING FOR ANY OF ITS TYPE! I'LL HAVE THE SPONSOR JIGGING FOR JOY!
HOW? WILL YOU PULL A RABBIT OUT OF THE HAT?
RADIO WZMF
NOT A RABBIT, CLAIRE, BUT...
HELLO, CLAIRE!
HA!

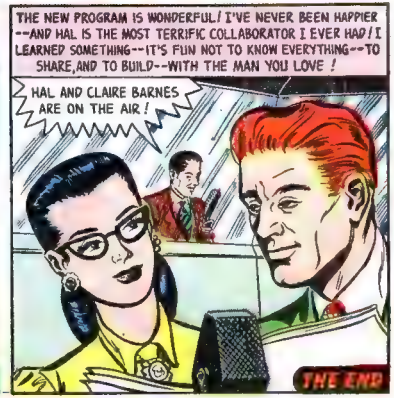
HAL'S BEEN DOING A TERRIFIC JOB AT KSR--YOU'VE BEEN GOOD HERE! SO I THOUGHT...WHY CAN'T WE GET TOGETHER--MAKE YOU FAMOUS WITH A HUSBAND-WIFE PROGRAM? SMART, HUH?
HAL DARLING! ...I...

WELL...I GUESS ...UH...TWO'S COMPANY AND THREE'S A CROWD, HUH?
I'VE MISSED YOU, CLAIRE... BUT IT HAD TO BE LIKE THIS! I HAD TO MEET YOU ON EQUAL GROUND--PROVE TO MYSELF I COULD DO SOMETHING ON MY OWN!
OH, DARLING, DARLING! I'VE MISSED YOU! I'VE MISSED YOU SO...


WHEN I FELT HIS LIPS ON MINE, I KNEW WHAT HEAVEN MUST BE LIKE! HAL WAS HOME FOR GOOD THIS TIME...MY HAL!

WE'LL HAVE A FINE PROGRAM --A GREAT PROGRAM! I KNOW JUST THE ANGLE TO USE ...I'LL...
WHOOPS! HOLD IT, HONEY--I HAVE A FEW IDEAS, TOO! IT'S OUR PROGRAM...AND WE'LL BOTH GIVE PART OF OURSELVES TO IT...OR ELSE...I CAN ALWAYS GO BACK TO ASHTON, YOU KNOW!

BULLY! FOR A GIRL WHO THOUGHT SHE KNEW ALL THE ANSWERS...I'VE BEEN STYMIED PLENTY! BELIEVE ME, I HAVE A LOT TO LEARN! WHAT I DO KNOW IS THAT I LOVE YOU WITH ALL MY HEART...
AND IF I DIDN'T LOVE YOU...I WOULDN'T BE HERE! NOW LET'S GET TO WORK!
RADIO
WZMF
URSDAY NI
7


THE NEW PROGRAM IS WONDERFUL! I'VE NEVER BEEN HAPPIER --AND HAL IS THE MOST TERRIFIC COLLABORATOR I EVER HAD! I LEARNED SOMETHING--IT'S FUN NOT TO KNOW EVERYTHING--TO SHARE, AND TO BUILD--WITH THE MAN YOU LOVE!
HAL AND CLAIRE BARNES ARE ON THE AIR!
THE END

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Amazing Roosevelt commemorative collection free! Postage 3c. Approvals. Hurry—one to a customer!
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GIVEN—Famous Americana Set plus Flag Set plus National Parks Set, plus the Presidential Set to the 1 Actual of 50 Name Absolutely Free to Customers for our Unsurpassed United States or Foreign Selections. Send 5c Postage for 1 of the Above Mentioned Stamps plus Full Sensational Offer. Trylon Stamp Co., 25¢ worth $5 145 Nassau St., New York City.

118 DIFFERENT STAMPS
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We are offering a packet containing extremely attractive stamps from most distant and hard-to-get countries as ABYSSINIA, MACAO, CAYMAN ISLANDS, BRUNEI, plus a beautiful bi-color triangle, all are sent absolutely free to approval applicants.
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All Different
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Complete set Royal Visit, Coronation, Jubilee, new George VI set, Confederation, Gen. V set, etc. All for 1c to approvals. Only 1c to approval applicants.
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25 FRENCH COLONIES
ALL DIFFERENT. THESE BEAUTIFUL MINT STAMPS ONLY 10c TO APPROVAL APPLICANTS.
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$1—$2—$5 U.S. STAMPS
Included in our Giant Bargain Collection of U.S. commemoratives, Airmail & High Value Stamps (Value 90c) Only 5c to applicants U.S. approvals.
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1050 DIFFERENT STAMPS GIVEN
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Nyasaland Scarce Triangle, African Airmail, Eritrea, Selangor, Perak, Vatican City, Mauritius, So. Americas, Malay, South Sea Islands, Colonials, and many more good stamps. 5c only to approval applicants. Big Bargain!
1932-A Chevy Chase, Glendale 6, Calif.

PORTO RICO AIRMAIL TRIANGLE — FREE!
(Only-U. S Colonial Triangle issued!), also Cook Islands, Indo-China, Syria, Ivory Coast, Philippine "Sierra Stamp", Nigeria, Monaco, Elephant & Pirate Lands, Cambodia, etc. — ALL FREE with approvals for 3c postage.
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53 DIAMOND, TRIANGLES, OTHERS! FREE!
Let 53 DIFFERENT with Diamond, Triangle, 52 Privateagles (Holy Grail & Volcano), Czech, Lithuania, Orchid, Animals, Slovenia, Carriola, Giant stamp, others ALL FREE for 4c mailing charge. Approvals.
Kalamazoo Stamp Service, Box 333-M, Kalamazoo, Mich.

GIANT SIBERIAN DIAMOND — 53 OTHERS! Enormous Diamond (1 inches long). Also "Flat-Tight" stamp, Israel, Chaco War, Asian Airmail, Wild Rhinos, Snakes, Igdrasil, Africa, French Colonies, etc. 52 DIFFERENT—ALL 5c Approvals. GEORGE MACIEL, 47 Prospect St., EAST PROVIDENCE, R. I.

POSITIVELY GREATEST FREE OFFER
Rare Octagonal (eight sided) stamp, gorgeous Diamond, giant Triangle, and Animal Stamps; mammoth and midget stamps, total value $2.00, ALL FREE to foreign approval buyers. Plus Free, Scott's International $6.00 album and latest Scott Stamp Catalogues.
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GREAT $5.00 Catalog Price FOR 10¢ OFFER!
(1) Big collection of 112 all different genuine stamps from Africa, South America, South Sea Islands, etc. Includes Airmails, Triangle and Animal Stamps; many others. (2) Four scarce unused United States, catalog price 40c. (3) Fine packet 25 different British Colonies—Burma, Hong Kong, Samoan Islands, etc. (4) U. S. $5.00 high value. Total catalog price over $5.00 ! Everything for only 10c to approval applicants! Big lists of other bargains given.
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500 STAMPS FOR ONLY 10¢
INCLUDES STAMPS CATALOGUING UP TO 25c EACH! ALSO APPROVALS
MYSTIC STAMP COMPANY
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"TIN PAN ALLY" DIAMOND!
GEORGE WASHINGTON . . . "OLD GLORY" & OTHERS
Famous "Managua-Nicaragua" Diamond Shaped Stamp, gorgeous Ecuador showing Washington, American Eagle & U.S. Flag in NATURAL COLORS, also Fezzan "French Foreign Legion" stamp, first U.S. Commemorative, $100 00 UNUSED Shanghai, Trieste "U.S. Army", Corsica, Jungle, Desert, Antique Issue, others Everything Only 5c. Approvals.
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FREE CATALOG!
Beautifully illustrated United States Stamps Bargains in Packets Albums & Supplies
Information for Beginners
HARRIS & CO., 111 Transit Bldg., BOSTON, MASS

200 BRITISH EMPIRE STAMPS
● ONLY 5c TO APPROVAL BUYERS ●
KENMORE, Dept. 18, Arlington 74, Mass.

WOW! $10.00 Worth Of Fun 10c!
What a treasure hunt! Big package 300 Foreign Stamps including airmails, pictorials and others all from the world over; stamps worth up to 25c each. This offer sent for 10c to approval applicants only.
JAMESTOWN STAMP CO., Dept. 99, Jamestown, N.Y.

200 Different Stamps ONLY 3c
TO APPROVAL BUYERS
Send for stamps catalog up to 15c each
LITTLETON STAMP CO., LITTLETON 83, N. H.

Free! Turks & Caicos — Elephant Triangle also Dancr, Guinea, Palestine, Nepal, Ship, "Arabian "3 language stamp," queer Sea Lion, Snake, Cactus Plant & Fairy Tale stamps, Colonials, etc. ALL FREE for 3c postage. Approvals. Peloubet Stamp Co., Dept. 7, Washington 10, D. C.

54 Diff. Roosevelt Stamps, etc.
Big Lot 54 Different includes Roosevelt stamps from Monaco & San Marino, also Hitler & Mussolini stamps from Libia, Bahamia & many others. ALL ONLY 5c. Approvals.
MARYLAND STAMP CO.,
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Ugly BLACKHEADS OUT IN SECONDS
Keep your complexion free of Blackheads this new way — look attractive instantly!
Try VACUTEX Blackhead-Remover
The amazingly effective Vacutex extracts Blackheads scientifically — WITHOUT squeezing the skin or injuring tissues. Easy to use with three fingers. It reaches Blackheads anywhere. Try it 10 days and if not delighted, return VACUTEX and your money will be refunded.
$1.00
At Your Dealer or Use Coupon
10 DAY TRIAL COUPON
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10 West 44th St., New York 18, N. Y.
☐ Enclosed find $1 Send postpaid.
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SORRY NO C. O. D.'s OUTSIDE U. S. A.

$—BELIEVE IN LUCK?—$

Carry a pair of GENUINE BRAHMA RED LIVE HIGHLY MAGNETIC LODESTONES! Legend reputes, Occult Oriental ancients augment attributed carried Live Lodestones as POWERFUL MAGNETIC "LUCKY" CHARMS, the "attract" in Good Luck in Money, Games, Love, Business, Health, etc., the other to "prevent" Bad Luck, Losses, Evil, Trouble, Harm, etc. Believe in Luck? Carry a Pair of these curious Genuine Brahma Red Live Lodestones! We make no supernatural claims. $1.97 Postpaid for the two, with all information. Extra if C.O.D. Send $1.97 and save 29c. Satisfaction GUARANTEED or Money Returned. Order yours NOW!
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NOTICE! Beware of imitations! We absolutely GUARANTEE these Genuine Brahma Lodestones are ALIVE! We believe they are just what you want, the REAL THING—POWERFUL DRAWING. EXTRA MIGHTY MAGNETIC! Fully Guaranteed! Copyright '37-A. Co.

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Thrilling New Fad!
Your first name or nickname as the setting on a beautiful modernistic design, chromium finished ring! Just sheer and sharp for years. Withstands washing, rubbing, wear. A thrilling novelty and a masterful delight! Order your name to be inscribed.
SEND NO MONEY! Mail order today and pay postman only $1.00 plus postage for the ring size. Pay postman only $1.00 plus postage and tax. MONEY BACK GUARANTEE if not delighted. ORDER RING SIZE
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It sounds unbelievable, but it's true! 50 different United States stamps ranging in age as far back as over 60 years and in face value as high as 50 cents dollar. Only postage, commemorative and air mails included. Nothing else. Extra 2 Jap Occupation of Philippines all for only 10c to approval applicants. Please state whether approvals shall consist of U S. or foreign stamps or both.
GLOBUS STAMP CO. 368 Fourth Ave., N.Y. 10, N.Y. Dept. 321

Get THIS BIG 10 UNIT SUPER STAMP OUTFIT

WITH THIS OFFER

Free

Includes Stamp Album .. Stamp Packets & Supplies .. Magnifying Glass ... All These FREE With This Offer

Whether you are a stamp collector or not, here is an opportunity to get FREE such an amazing outfit that it seems almost unbelievable ... All kinds of choice stamps and stamp materials ... Wonderful supplies which you will spend weeks enjoying ... and years of delightful possession. All these are yours FREE & CLEAR by accepting our offer on the wonderbook of adventures and treasures, "Fabulous Stamps" ... You don't have to buy any "approvals" ... All these stamps and items are yours FREE.

One of the FREE items in this Big 10-UNIT Collection is the extraordinary, picture-packed Album shown here. It contains thousands of illustrations of stamps under HUNDREDS of different countries .. and additional spaces for thousands of other stamps ... Also explains how to start your stamp collection ... We are also sending you FREE all kinds of valuable stamps! Start at once putting them into this wonderful, big Album.

ALL THESE Free

1. A Great Magnifying Glass. Strong Lens. Optically Ground & Polished.
2. Wonder Packet of Odd & Queer Stamps, including Triangle, Diamond, Giant, and Midget
3. Packet of Air Mail Stamps, including U. S. & Foreign
4. Packet of Different Commemorative Stamps.
5. Picturesque Packet of Different Animal Stamps.
6. Colorful Packet of Assorted Stamps from all over the World.
7. Perforation Gauge with Scale & Rule.
8. Packet of Fine Stamp Hinges for attaching Stamps to Album Pages.
9. Watermark Detector for Stamps, with directions for use.
10. E:g. picture-packed Album, including thousands of stamp illustrations, etc.

HERE ARE FORTUNES IN STAMPS

This great book, FABULOUS STAMPS, tells astounding stories, and gives information which may lead you to a fortune. It gives the complete histories of marvelous stamps, and is full of pictures ... It tells how people have made fortunes out of different stamps ... Only a person like John W. Nicklin, the well-known stamp dealer and author, with his lifetime knowledge, could have written these exciting, fortune-making stories and facts ... Whether you are young or old, a stamp collector or not, doesn't matter. These true adventures of discovered treasures show you how you too might make your fortune in discovering valuable stamps. So don't delay. Send for it today.

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BLACKHEADS "PET HATE"

Say Men, Girls in Choosing Date

What a "black mark" is the blackhead . . . according to men and girls popular enough to be choosy about dates!

"Nobody's dreamboat!" "Nobody's date bait!" And that's not all that's said of those who are careless about blackheads. But blackheads ARE ugly! Blackheads ARE grimy! **And they DON'T look good in close-ups!**

So can you blame the fellow who says, "Sure, I meet lots of girls who look cute at first glance. But if, on that second glance, I see dingy blackheads, it's *good night!*"

Or can you blame the girl who confesses, "I hate to go out with a fellow who has blackheads. If he's careless about that you're sure he'll embarrass you in other ways, too!"

But you — are YOUR ears burning? Well, you've company and, sad to say, good company. There are lots of otherwise attractive fellows and girls who could date anyone they like if they'd only realize how offensive blackheads are . . . and how easily and quickly they could get rid of them . . . if they *want* to!

"He-Man" Often Guilty of Blackhead Crime

Take your "he-man" . . . super at track, games, sports of all kinds . . . who thinks that after just a shower he's ready to go anywhere! And won't the girls all admire his muscles!

Sure they would! But not many dance floors are set up for hurdle races! You can't show off your snappy left hook when only cokes are in the ring. The "he-man" who's also clean-cut, will get the breaks wherever he is.

Even Cute Girls Become Careless

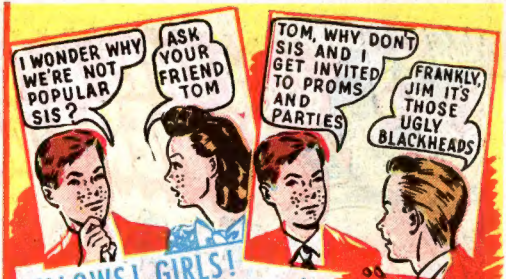
Easy, too easy, for a girl to think that if she has the latest in clothes and hair-do she needn't bother about blackheads. A little more make-up, she guesses, will take care of that. BUT MAKE-UP WON'T HIDE BLACKHEADS! Not unless it's plaster of paris, maybe! And even good make-up "slips" at a dance! So don't take chances, cute though you may be!

TAKE THESE TIPS TO BANISH BLACKHEADS

Keep skin clean by washing morning and night with warm, almost hot, water. Use good soap and plenty of it. And finish with cool water.

Extract every blackhead as soon as you see it — with a SAFE extractor. Don't use finger nails. Don't squeeze. That may mean infection, injured tissues, a marred skin.

Just be clean! Be quick! And be safe! That's easy! And that's ALL!



FELLOWS! GIRLS!
Keep Skin Clear and Clean!

UGLY BLACKHEADS OUT in Seconds with VACUTEX

NEW! SCIENTIFIC! VACUUM ACTION!

Amazing new VACUTEX is painless . . . safe . . . fast! In seconds you are rid of those ugly blackheads that clog the pores . . . make your skin look grimy and dingy . . . give others such a wrong impression of you. VACUTEX creates a gentle vacuum pressure around the blackhead and extracts it — quickly! — without injury to tender skin tissues. Keep skin always clear this new scientific way. Without painful squeezing! Without dangerous infection from germy fingers! Just place VACUTEX over blackhead and draw back extractor. Blackhead's out! Simple! But you'll be delighted by your instantly improved appearance. Others will notice your clearer, cleaner skin! Try VACUTEX — now!

ACTUAL LENGTH 3½"

RUSH COUPON NOW!

10 DAY TRIAL OFFER

No Squeezing No Infection No Injury to Skin Tissues!

Just place VACUTEX over blackhead — release extractor — and blackhead's out!

10 DAY TRIAL GUARANTEE

BALCO PRODUCTS COMPANY, Dept. 6007
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☐ Enclosed find $1.00. Send me VACUTEX postpaid.
☐ Ship C.O.D. I will pay postman $1.00 plus postage.
My dollar will be refunded if I am not delighted.

NAME_____

ADDRESS_____

SORRY NO C.O.D. OUTSIDE OF U.S.A.

Don't send a penny. Mail coupon and pay postman only $1.00 plus postage. Or save all postage by enclosing $1.00 with guarantee coupon. If not thrilled to be rid of embarrassing hated blackheads this new quick way — just return VACUTEX in 10 days and get $1 back. Order today!

Reducing Specialist Says:

"Thanks to the Spot Reducer, I lost four inches around the hips and three inches around the waistline. It's amazing." Mary Martin, Long Island City, N. Y.

DON'T STAY

FAT... LOSE POUNDS AND INCHES

SAFELY- WITHOUT RISKING HEALTH

REDUCE

most any part of the body with

SPOT REDUCER

DOCTORS PROVE BY ACTUAL TEST THAT THIS EASY TO USE SPOT REDUCER HELPS LOSE POUNDS AND INCHES WHERE IT SHOWS MOST. Yes . . . Doctors say that this method of reducing will help you lose weight easily, pleasantly, safely. Nothing internal to take, No pills, laxatives or harmful drugs. Just think of it you can lose weight in SPOTS, just in the places it shows most. All you do is follow the instructions of this amazing, new, scientifically designed SPOT REDUCER.

HOW SPOT REDUCER WORKS. The Spot Reducer uses the age old principle of massage. It breaks down excess fatty tissue, tones the muscles and flesh and the increased awakened blood circulation carries away waste fat economically, simply, pleasantly. In a recent Medical Book, edited by the chairman and two other members of Council on Physical Therapy of AMERICAN MEDICAL ASSOCIATION, the following is stated on page 34, Chapter 18,-Vol. 3.: "Beyond all question something can be done by massage to reduce local deposits of FAT . . . There can however, be no question that massage applied to the region of the HIPS can and does, reduce the amount of fatty deposits in this region". This book is a reliable unbiased source of information and many doctors refer to it for the last word in Physical Therapy. This prompted us to develop and have doctors test the SPOT REDUCER.

HERE IS PROOF POSITIVE THAT THE SPOT REDUCER WORKS!

In recent tests made by outstanding licensed Medical Doctors on more than 100 people with the use of Spot Reducer everyone lost pounds and inches in a few short weeks, in HIPS, ABDOMEN, LEGS, ARMS, BUTTOCKS, etc. And the users say: "IT WAS FUN AND THEY ENJOYED IT." The Spot Reducer worked as well on men as it did on women. The Spot Reducer way controls weight, once down to normal it helps retain your new "SLIM FIGURE" as long as you like. Look and feel better, see bulges disappear within the first weeks. The beauty of this scientifically designed SPOT REDUCER is that the method is so simple and easy, the results quick, sure and harmless. Thousands have lost weight this way in hips, abdomen, legs, arms, buttocks, etc. The same method used by stage, screen and radio personalities and leading reducing salons. The Spot Reducer can be used in the privacy of your own room in your spare time.

Miss Nancy Mace, Bronx, N. Y., says: "I went from size 16 dress to a size 12 with the use of the Spot Reducer. I am glad I used it."

MONEY-BACK GUARANTEE WITH A 10-DAY FREE TRIAL

If the "Spot Reducer" doesn't do the wonders for you as it has for others, if you don't lose weight and inches where you want to lose it most, if you're not 100% delighted with the results, your money will be returned at once.

MAIL COUPON NOW!

FREE

A large size jar of Special Formula Body Massage Cream will be included FREE with your order for the "Spot Reducer."

The "Spot Reducer" Co., Dept. 173
871 Broad St., Newark, New Jersey

Send me at once, for $2 cash, check or money order, the "Spot Reducer" and your famous Special Formula Body Massage Cream, postpaid. If I am not 100% satisfied, my money will be refunded.

Name_____

Address_____

City_____ State_____

☐ I enclose $5.00. Send the Giant Size Body Massage Cream with My Spot Reducer.

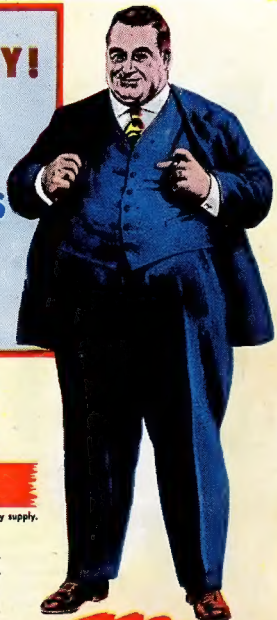
SENT ON APPROVAL

SPOT REDUCER good for men too!

Now

Reduce SAFELY!

WHETHER OVERWEIGHT 10 Pounds or 100 Pounds



Good news for fat people! **Now take off up to 7 pounds the first week without danger to health! If you are a normally healthy man or woman, the medically proven Protam Plan will do wonders for your appearance, even if you have been burdened with unwanted fat for years! (Illness excepted.)**

You Can LOSE up to 16 Pounds

for Less Than $2.50

8 oz. PROTAM package sufficient for up to 30 day supply.

Lose ugly fat now! See the difference in your appearance within a few days . . . at a cost less than you ever thought possible! The Protam Plan is sensible and sensibly priced! No sugar-coated pills . . . no drugs . . . no massage . . . no expensive food menus. For just a few dollars you may lose all your excess fat. And once down to normal the Protam Plan helps you retain your new-found slenderness as long as you like for only a few pennies a day!

NO DRUGS
NO HARDSHIP
NO EXERCISE
NO MASSAGE
NOTHING TO WEAR

MEDICAL RESEARCH PROVES PROTAM PLAN IS TWICE AS EFFECTIVE AS 1200-CALORIE DIET!

More than 100 overweight men and women were scientifically studied under average home conditions for many months by a world-famous medical university, large New York hospital, and a nationally known medical consultant. Their research proved Protam is SAFE. While following the Protam Plan, weight-loss was indicated from the very first week. Weekly examinations showed no harmful effects while reducing. Over a period of 33 weeks the weight loss under the Protam Plan was *double* that achieved by 1200-calorie diet in the same period of time! Here's how Protam works: it appeases the appetite to eliminate the hardship of reducing, and supplements the system with proteins and amino acids for long lasting energy.

PROTAM PLAN Oxidizes Excess Fat Up to 7 Pounds in One Week

The Protam Plan reacts quickly . . . drastically cuts down fat-producing calories . . . uses up accumulated excess fat. Thousands of overweight people report sensational results . . . some losing 20 pounds in 30 days. Many attain even greater success . . . others enthuse "How well they feel" while reducing. To achieve same results just take Protam as directed, Follow the Protam Plan once or twice a day according to how fast you wish to lose weight. The Protam Plan is based on a scientific, medically-proven low-calorie protein regimen. Protam is an appetite-appeasing FOOD, scientifically formulated, laboratory prepared, medically accepted.

READ HOW OTHERS LOST UNWANTED FAT

A SATISFACTORY PLAN—"Protam is a reducing plan that has been satisfactory with me."—Mrs. R. K., Keene Road, Conn.

USED ½ CAN AND PEELS BETTER—"I can't send praise enough for how much better I feel since taking just ½ can of Protam."—Mrs. C. R., Greenwich, Ohio

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MORE ENERGY—"Have lost at least 6 lbs. a week. My, I feel so much better and have more energy and strength to do my work."—Mrs. E. P.

LOST 17 LBS.—"I lost 17 lbs. with the Protam Plan using only one can."—Mrs. B. E., Takoma Pk., D. C.

PROTAM IS GOOD FOR YOU

because it contains all the essential AMINO ACIDS, (a comparatively new scientific nutritional discovery), PROTEINS for Body Fuel, added Pep and Energy, VITAMINS and MINERALS. Protam is safe . . . an amazing, nutritional REDUCING FOOD SUPPLEMENT for a low calory regimen.

RUSH COUPON TODAY

FREE 10 DAY TRIAL OFFER

SEND NO MONEY

ORDER TODAY . . . You risk NO MONEY, not even postage. You must lose pounds and inches within 10 days or your money will be refunded immediately, including p ↑-age. Your decision is final. Just mail coupon today . . . NOW! On delivery simply pay postman $2.50 . . . begin losing fat the first few days. Enjoy new energy. Have confidence in your appearance.

Associated Nutrition Products, Inc., Dept. 4807
150 Nassau Street, New York 7, N. Y.

Send me in plain package the 8 oz. Protam Plan for a 10-DAY FREE TRIAL. I will pay postma. $2.50 plus postage. This money will be refunded immediately, including postage, if I do not safely REDUCE to my satisfaction within 10 days. 1 RISK NOTHING.

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(Print Plainly)

ADDRESS _____

CITY _____ ZONE ____ STATE ____

(Sorry, no Canadian Orders)

WE PAY POSTAGE IF CHECK OR MONEY ORDER ENCLOSED

He went searching for love...
but Fate forced a

DETOUR to

Revelry...
Violence...
Mystery!

DREGS

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